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                  IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
                 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
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                            WESTERN DIVISION
 3 LDGP, LLC, et al.,
                                       Docket No. 15 C 50148
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                                     )
 4
                Plaintiffs,
                                     ) Rockford, Illinois
                                       Monday, April 10, 2017
                                     )
                                        1:30 o'clock p.m.
 5
         V.
                                     )
 6 CYNOSURE, INC.,
                                     )
 7
                Defendant.
 8
                       TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
                 BEFORE THE HONORABLE IAIN D. JOHNSTON
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    APPEARANCES:
10
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                                     (70 W. Madison Street,
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                                     Rockford, IL 61105-0219) by
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                                     MR. MARC C. GRAVINO
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   For the Defendant:
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- 1 (Proceedings heard in open court:)
- THE CLERK: Calling 15 CV 50148, LDGP, LLC vs.
- 3 Cynosure, Inc.
- 4 THE COURT: I'm not doing this by myself.
- 5 MR. BRUCE: Good morning, Judge.
- 6 Good morning, Judge. Devon Bruce on behalf of the
- 7 Plaintiffs.
- 8 THE COURT: Good afternoon, Mr. Bruce.
- 9 MR. HOLEVAS: Good afternoon, your Honor. John
- 10 Holevas, also on behalf of Plaintiffs.
- 11 THE COURT: Good afternoon, Mr. Holevas.
- 12 MR. GRAVINO: Good afternoon, your Honor. Mark
- 13 Gravino here for the Plaintiffs.
- 14 THE COURT: Good afternoon, Mr. Gravino.
- 15 MR. SAMORE: Good morning, your Honor. Eric Samore
- 16 on behalf of Defendant, Cynosure.
- 17 THE COURT: Good afternoon, Mr. Samore.
- 18 MS. LONG: Kate Long, also on behalf of Cynosure.
- 19 THE COURT: Good afternoon, Ms. Long.
- Okay. We are here on a big ol' stack of paper.
- 21 There is, essentially, cross motions to compel. So I have got
- 22 Defendant's motion to compel. There is two of them.
- 23 Plaintiffs' response. Motion for leave to file under seal, I
- 24 ruled on that. If it is something that goes into my thought
- 25 process, the Seventh Circuit says that it is unsealed.

- 1 And then the Plaintiffs' motion to compel responses
- 2 and the Defendant's response.
- 3 Sort of a big picture issue, I know you've heard me
- 4 say it: I apply the goose-and-gander rule. So if one side is
- 5 saying that an issue is relevant and they need it, and the
- 6 other side says the same thing, I'm probably going to rule
- 7 consistently. It is going to go both ways, all right?
- 8 Party statements, any statement by a party. Now,
- 9 once they are requested, and this has been known, the rule,
- 10 for a long time under 26(b)(3)(C), "Previous statement. Any
- 11 party or other person may, on request and without the required
- 12 showing" -- that's kind of a key point -- "obtain the person's
- 13 own previous statement about the action or its subject matter.
- 14 If the request is refused, the person may move for a court
- 15 order" under Rule 37, and Rule 37 applies for expenses. "A
- 16 previous statement," that is either a "written statement that
- 17 the person has signed or otherwise adopted or approved or a
- 18 contemporaneous stenographic, mechanical" -- I don't know if
- 19 that ever happens anymore -- "electrical or other
- 20 recording -- or a transcription of it -- that recites
- 21 substantially verbatim the person's oral statement." So
- 22 those, if anybody has got those, both sides pass them. You
- 23 have got to give them.
- 24 Proportionality, that has been around. It just got
- 25 moved forward. So burdensomeness, when that is raised, that

- 1 kind of hints of proportionality, but I need facts. I need
- 2 facts to do the weighing process, to look at all six factors.
- 3 So I need facts for certain things.
- I have got a big issue -- I don't mean that
- 5 pejoratively -- an issue that I'm confused about, and I need
- 6 to -- we will flesh it out as we proceed. It relates to the
- 7 Defendant's inability to identify, essentially, the purchase
- 8 price of the machines.
- 9 MR. BRUCE: Right.
- 10 THE COURT: And my confusion stems from being alive
- 11 for 52 years and being an attorney for 20-something. I have
- 12 never purchased -- I have never purchased anything and not
- 13 received an invoice, and I have never sold anything and not
- 14 given an invoice, and all my clients did the same thing.
- 15 Every company I represented in every commercial case, anything
- 16 under the UCC, any kind of commercial case, there is always an
- 17 invoice. And so we will talk about it, but I'm a little
- 18 confused as to why it would be difficult to figure out the
- 19 cost of the product, okay?
- 20 So let me do this: I made an attempt -- well, it is
- 21 a little rough, but I made an attempt to try to figure out
- 22 what was really at issue as best I could. I wrote "resolved?"
- 23 on a whole lot of things.
- 24 So I don't know if the parties have talked since all
- 25 the filings were made. Have you talked at all to try to

- 1 figure out what is resolved and what is not?
- 2 MR. BRUCE: No.
- 3 MR. SAMORE: Well, we did with respect to their
- 4 attorney-client assertion and request that they produce a
- 5 privilege log.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay.
- 7 MR. SAMORE: We did not receive a response.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay.
- 9 MR. BRUCE: Yes, that was late last week, Judge, and
- 10 I would like to address that at the appropriate time.
- 11 THE COURT: And that's something, the attorney-client
- 12 issue, I have got a big ol' star next to it, and it says it
- 13 needs to be fleshed out.
- 14 So I will make this attempt to see what's really at
- 15 issue. So let me go to -- this is Plaintiffs' motion to
- 16 compel. Plaintiffs' Fourth Set of Interrogatories, No. 2, it
- 17 says, "Identify the names and address of all third-party
- 18 individuals and/or companies that Cynosure" -- am I
- 19 pronouncing that right, Cynosure?
- 20 MR. SAMORE: I think it is Cynosure, but I'm glad --
- 21 THE COURT: We will go with Cynosure, then.
- 22 -- "Cynosure hired or retained which provided web
- 23 advertisements or other advertisements for the PicoSure
- 24 machine."
- 25 My read of the Defendant's response is that it

- 1 provided the information, so the issue is moot. Is that your
- 2 position, that you have provided the information?
- 3 MR. SAMORE: Yes, your Honor.
- 4 THE COURT: Okay. Have you had a chance to look at
- 5 the response to see if you received the information? Because
- 6 I don't know what you got. I don't know --
- 7 MR. BRUCE: You are asking about Interrogatory No. 2?
- 8 THE COURT: Plaintiffs' Fourth Set of
- 9 Interrogatories, Interrogatory No. 2, correct. Defendant says
- 10 they gave you the information.
- 11 MR. BRUCE: I'm sorry, the response that I'm looking
- 12 at, they didn't give us an answer to that, so maybe there is a
- 13 miscommunication.
- 14 THE COURT: Okay. Do you see --
- MR. BRUCE: You see, that's why I did it this way,
- 16 and maybe we made a mistake. I tried to kind of make it
- 17 easier for you, Judge, and for me, like in this context, to
- 18 have what I asked for and their response.
- 19 THE COURT: Right. And there has been lots of
- 20 follow-up after that, so I want to make sure we are all on the
- 21 same page.
- MR. BRUCE: Yes. To be clear -- okay, fair enough.
- 23 I mean, maybe I missed something, but out of all this stuff
- 24 that went back and forth, they only changed their mind on
- 25 about two out of 20-something.

- 1 THE COURT: Okav.
- 2 MR. BRUCE: So unless I missed, if this is one of
- 3 them.
- 4 THE COURT: Okay. So let's go -- what did you
- 5 provide in response to Interrogatory No. 2?
- 6 MS. LONG: This is one of the two. So we sent them
- 7 an amended interrogatory answer on the Thursday before these
- 8 motions were due, and we attached it to our response as
- 9 Exhibit B.
- MR. BRUCE: All right. Let me look at that, Judge.
- 11 As I said, I'm frequently wrong. I will stand corrected.
- I have their amended response.
- THE COURT: Yes, docket entry 99-2.
- 14 No, that's the affidavit, sorry. So why don't you --
- 15 MR. BRUCE: They told -- I'm sorry, I didn't mean to
- 16 interrupt.
- 17 THE COURT: Go ahead.
- 18 MR. BRUCE: I'm just trying to skim through. They
- 19 have identified Doc Web, and as long as they are -- and that's
- 20 an entity we already know about, and we served them with a
- 21 subpoena. If that's -- you know, without all of the
- 22 thaumaturgic language, if they are representing formally, as
- 23 officers of the court, that's the only company, then the
- 24 answer is, fine, we're done.
- THE COURT: Okay.

- 1 MR. BRUCE: Are they representing that?
- THE COURT: Okay.
- 3 MR. SAMORE: To our knowledge, that's correct.
- 4 THE COURT: Okay. I'm going to come back to that.
- 5 All right. Plaintiffs' Fourth Set of Production,
- 6 that's a statement of any kind by named plaintiff or named
- 7 plaintiff representative which is not encompassed in the
- 8 previous request, that was my point under Rule 26. If you've
- 9 got statements of the Plaintiffs --
- 10 MR. SAMORE: Just so long as it is clear, we
- 11 haven't -- the information they are asking is on the web and
- 12 within their possession and control. What we would -- we will
- 13 produce whatever we have, but we are not representing that we
- 14 have, and I don't think we have, any obligation, as your Honor
- 15 would acknowledge, to scour the Internet for all the
- 16 statements that they have made in the past.
- 17 THE COURT: If you don't have it, you don't possess
- 18 them, right?
- 19 MR. SAMORE: Yes. We will produce what we have.
- 20 THE COURT: Good deal. But if you have got
- 21 statements from the Plaintiffs, you have to provide them.
- 22 MR. SAMORE: We will produce them, yes, Judge.
- MR. BRUCE: And just so you know, the concern that we
- 24 have is, before we embark on the Plaintiffs' depositions, in
- 25 every case, from the simplest auto to the most complex cases,

- 1 I give them, their statements, to defendants that I have and
- 2 vice versa.
- I don't want a circumstance, Judge, and what I'm
- 4 trying to flesh out is they have been making a lot of
- 5 objections up until this moment, when they changed their
- 6 position right now. They have been saying, "We will get back
- 7 to you. We will amend. We will respond." We have been at
- 8 this for nine or twelve months. I don't want my clients being
- 9 shown right at the deposition, when I'm down in Texas, a
- 10 document I have never seen before that purports to be from my
- 11 client. That's not fair, and that's what I'm trying to avoid.
- 12 And he is now saying, "We are going to give you
- 13 everything we have got," and that's fine. Because if it comes
- 14 up later, we are going to be here on a motion immediately. We
- 15 have had plenty of time for them to get it. I think they have
- 16 been -- I would like it.
- 17 MR. SAMORE: We have no obligation to search for
- 18 their statements that --
- 19 THE COURT: If it is not in your possession, custody,
- 20 and control, it is not in your possession, custody, and
- 21 control. But if you have got them --
- 22 MR. SAMORE: We will produce them. Yes, your Honor,
- 23 I agree.
- 24 THE COURT: All right. We will come back to that
- 25 one.

- 1 Plaintiffs' Fifth Set of Request to Produce, all
- 2 communications, form letters -- this is the Fifth Set of
- 3 Request to Produce, No. 2, "All communications, form letters,
- 4 e-mails, and correspondence with any punitive" -- I'm sorry,
- 5 "putative" -- "putative class member which in any way concerns
- 6 this litigation."
- 7 Defendant said produced the requested communications,
- 8 right?
- 9 MR. SAMORE: Concerning produced?
- 10 THE COURT: I'm reading the question. I'm telling
- 11 you what my understanding of the response is.
- 12 MR. SAMORE: Yes, the litigation --
- MS. LONG: Yes, we have a limited number of e-mails
- 14 between defense counsel and the putative class member who
- 15 wrote the declaration, that we attached to one of our other
- 16 motions, and we can produce that.
- 17 THE COURT: All right. You can produce it or you did
- 18 produce it?
- 19 MR. SAMORE: We will produce it.
- MS. LONG: We will produce it.
- 21 THE COURT: Okay. So, obviously, the next follow-up
- 22 question is when will you produce it?
- MR. SAMORE: We can do that, I think, within seven
- 24 days.
- THE COURT: Okay.

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1 MS. LONG: Yes.
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- 2 MR. BRUCE: Judge --
- 3 THE COURT: Hold on a second.
- 4 MR. BRUCE: Okay.
- 5 THE COURT: All right. Go ahead, Mr. Bruce.
- 6 MR. BRUCE: They indicate, after a number of the
- 7 boilerplate objections, they will amend and supplement. I
- 8 just want to understand, with the exception of the person that
- 9 they are now using in their reply brief or whatever it is,
- 10 their motion regarding whatever it is, motion to reconsider,
- 11 with the exception of that person, I think what they are
- 12 representing formally, as officers of the court, is they don't
- 13 have any other communications with any other putative class
- 14 member regarding communication, because I don't want to
- 15 just -- the one that they are using as an affiant, I want any
- 16 of those correspondence or communications.
- 17 THE COURT: The request says, "All communications,
- 18 form letters, e-mails, and correspondence with any putative
- 19 class member which in any way concerns this litigation,"
- 20 right?
- 21 And you are telling me those will be produced by
- 22 April 18th, right?
- MR. SAMORE: Yes, your Honor.
- 24 THE COURT: All right. So that seems like it has
- 25 been resolved.

- Okay. Now we kind of hit a vein here. Let's go to
- 2 Plaintiffs' Fifth Request to Produce, No. 3.
- 3 All right. This is what drives everybody crazy in
- 4 pretrial litigation. So there is an objection, lots of
- 5 objections, including burdensomeness. But after we sift
- 6 through all of that, it is the Defendant's response that you
- 7 are not withholding any documents.
- 8 So are there any documents that would be responsive
- 9 to the Fifth Set of Request to Produce, No. 3, that are being
- 10 withheld?
- MR. SAMORE: What does that concern? Okay, yes.
- 12 We have conducted a reasonable search. We are not
- 13 withholding any documents that we found responsive to this
- 14 request.
- 15 THE COURT: Okay. So that's where -- we are all
- 16 attorneys, so we are naturally suspicious. So when you get a
- 17 whole list of objections, including burdensomeness, and at the
- 18 very end, you say, "And there aren't any," it is hard for
- 19 something to be burdensome if they don't exist, because you
- 20 don't have to produce them, right?
- 21 MR. SAMORE: Well, it is possible our answers could
- 22 have been more succinct.
- 23 THE COURT: Okay. All right. I'm just telling you
- 24 what I have found, okay?
- MR. SAMORE: Right. Okay.

- 1 THE COURT: All right. So that appears to be
- 2 resolved because they said they are not withholding anything,
- 3 all right? Now, if they say they don't have them, they don't
- 4 have them. And if they pop up later, that's a whole other
- 5 issue. And my crystal ball is at the shop, so I don't know
- 6 what's going to be happen in the future.
- 7 MR. BRUCE: I don't know either, Judge, and it is
- 8 always -- you know, I'm always kind of even glass. So I have
- 9 got the single plaintiff, and I'm always against these
- 10 corporate entities, and I just -- for the record, I don't know
- 11 how you have this company that is marketing this machine, and
- 12 they market it worldwide, and then they come in with an
- 13 upgrade and additional software, and they have all these
- 14 marketing people and all that, and they are saying, as a
- 15 matter of course, "There is no e-mails, there is no documents,
- 16 there is nothing at Cynosure which is in any way how we
- 17 upgrade this or how we market it, how we are doing the
- 18 software." I mean, I find that very difficult to believe.
- 19 But, again, Judge, I can't say they are wrong. I don't know.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- 21 MR. BRUCE: I mean, as you said, Judge, I was going a
- 22 different direction. They had all these boilerplate
- 23 objections. If they didn't have any, it would have been easy
- 24 just to say "none."
- THE COURT: Okay.

- 1 MS. LONG: As further explanation, which might help
- 2 elucidate, my client -- you know, the way that I understand
- 3 from the client is that the PicoSure machine never needed an
- 4 upgrade. Upgrades were provided, but the machine would work
- 5 fine on its own. As to why additional software was needed,
- 6 they weren't really sure what that meant. We don't know what
- 7 "et cetera" means in the context of this. So I'm not sure if
- 8 there are documents that may be responsive to what Plaintiffs'
- 9 counsel thought they were looking for, but we don't have any
- 10 responsive to the request as it was written.
- MR. GRAVINO: Judge, it sounds like they are saying
- 12 that they interpreted this as only to ask for documents as to
- 13 why this upgrade was needed, but if it was recommended or
- 14 advisable or something that they were selling, they are saying
- 15 that's not really within the scope of this. And my
- 16 recollection, we had a Rule 37 conference about that. I think
- 17 our intention was clear in saying if you marketed this upgrade
- 18 and said that, you know, you can buy this and it will improve
- 19 the performance of the machine, that's what we were looking
- 20 for. Certainly, I think we could agree to narrow that as
- 21 well.
- Devon, I don't know your position on that.
- 23 THE COURT: Well, if you narrow it, you are not going
- 24 to get any more because they are saying --
- 25 MR. GRAVINO: Not narrow. I misspoke, Judge. Not

- 1 narrow, but change the word "needed" to how to respond and/or
- 2 market as to why the PicoSure machine might benefit from or be
- 3 enhanced by an upgrade or whatever.
- 4 But we were not intending to suggest that -- you
- 5 know, seek an admission from them that it utterly didn't
- 6 function at all unless you bought this. I think that was
- 7 clear in our Rule 37 conference.
- 8 But, Devon, I think we can --
- 9 MR. BRUCE: I mean, however they want to handle it.
- 10 Judge, I know for a fact, at least the named plaintiffs that
- 11 are currently before you, they tried to sell them this
- 12 software and this upgrade when the machine didn't work as
- 13 advertised. That's the fact, and that's going to come out in
- 14 the deps. And then they, obviously, developed this software
- 15 or these upgrades. It wasn't just for our clients.
- 16 So I find it difficult to believe that they didn't
- 17 have any correspondence and e-mails about why they are doing
- 18 that and address the concerns, but --
- 19 MR. GRAVINO: Judge, I think that it strikes me,
- 20 given the response that counsel just clarified with, that they
- 21 are kind of hiding behind the word "needed" and saying, "Well,
- 22 it really didn't need an upgrade, so we don't have any
- 23 documents responsive to that," and my suggestion is that we
- 24 agree to amend that to say that if the unit --
- 25 THE COURT: Well, the problem is we can't really

- 1 amend it on the fly because then they have to go back --
- 2 MR. GRAVINO: I understand. If that's --
- 3 MR. BRUCE: We can send one out tomorrow that doesn't
- 4 have the word "needed," and it is going to be the same thing.
- 5 MR. GRAVINO: Hopefully, we won't be back here,
- 6 because if you agree that it states a generally discoverable
- 7 request, we will amend it, and hopefully we can get better
- 8 compliance with that.
- 9 THE COURT: Okay. In the -- I assume there were
- 10 instructions in the interrogatories the Plaintiffs sent out
- 11 and the production request. Is there any kind of time frame
- 12 scope, time frame that limited the scope of these?
- MR. BRUCE: No, I would -- no, I would just say -- I
- 14 mean, I'm narrowing -- I'm just focused on this one PicoSure
- 15 machine. I mean, the workstation as defined in the complaint,
- 16 that's what we are after.
- 17 MR. GRAVINO: And, Judge, they actually, in an
- 18 earlier discovery request -- I apologize, I'm two weeks into a
- 19 cold, at the tail end, and my voice is still coming back.
- THE COURT: Keep your distance.
- 21 MR. GRAVINO: We requested documents relating to this
- 22 machine, and they produced a list of approximately 350 to 400
- 23 PicoSure purchasers. That really is the field, I think, we
- 24 are working with here. So I think that defines the scope,
- 25 at least at that point, which was about, maybe, 18 or 20

- 1 months into the litigation.
- 2 THE COURT: Okay.
- 3 MR. SAMORE: Your Honor, I just --
- 4 MR. GRAVINO: So if we got -- I apologize.
- 5 If we got the documents responsive to that group that
- 6 they produced a list of, the 400 customers, I think that would
- 7 certainly be a good start.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.
- 9 MR. SAMORE: Just real briefly. Substantively --
- 10 MS. LONG: There are other requests to produce that
- 11 cover a more broader topic. Like the request to produce 14,
- 12 in their sixth set, it asks for documents regarding the use of
- 13 a software update or add-on. I think another one, that I'm
- 14 having a hard time finding right now, but I'm pretty sure,
- 15 they asked for one about how to market the add-ons. So we
- 16 have produced some documents responsive to their concern that
- 17 they are expressing now in response to their discovery
- 18 requests that were tailored, you know, that actually asked for
- 19 that information.
- MR. SAMORE: Regarding the upgrade, if they want the
- 21 documents regarding an upgrade to the product, I believe
- 22 that --
- MS. LONG: They have been covered in at least one or
- 24 two other.
- 25 MR. SAMORE: In a more direct correspondence.

- 1 THE COURT: All right.
- 2 MR. SAMORE: But the other thing I just want to say
- 3 is that I was at the conference with Plaintiffs, and Devon was
- 4 very clear. He did not want to talk about the requests. We
- 5 certainly didn't -- there was no explanation of this request
- 6 or any others. It was basically, "I think we have got this
- 7 covered," as he said in the beginning. "I think we have got
- 8 this covered." Can we agree that we complied with Rule 37.2?
- 9 I, perhaps, mistakenly agreed to that, but there was certainly
- 10 no discussion. I just want to make the record clear with
- 11 respect to that, although it is an ancillary point.
- 12 THE COURT: Well, we are all here, so I am going to
- 13 see what we can get accomplished today, okay?
- MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 15 THE COURT: All right. Let's go to Plaintiffs' Sixth
- 16 Request For Production, No. 6: "Any and all documents,
- 17 including internal memoranda, e-mail, and/or correspondence
- 18 that involved the development, use, and/or distribution of any
- 19 other advertisements utilized by Cynosure to market or
- 20 advertise the PicoSure" -- I'm going to give you the
- 21 spelling -- "produce where the tattoo was 'photoshopped' on to
- 22 a model."
- There is objections, but then subject to the
- 24 objections, there is no documents. So if there is no
- 25 documents, there is no documents, right? That's what you are

- 1 telling me?
- 2 MS. LONG: Actually, this is going to be an easy one.
- 3 This is included in the -- we are going to produce additional
- 4 documents.
- 5 THE COURT: All right. And that would occur on
- 6 April 18th as well?
- 7 MR. SAMORE: Well, your Honor, we may -- I don't know
- 8 that we can do everything within a week --
- 9 THE COURT: Okay.
- 10 MR. SAMORE: -- within that time frame. They took
- 11 eight months to promulgate their responses and took over a
- 12 year to respond to our first set. So we may need -- when we
- 13 are all done, we can maybe --
- 14 THE COURT: How much time do you need?
- MR. SAMORE: I'm going to say, what, three weeks,
- 16 maybe, just to be on the safe side, and that would be true for
- 17 the Plaintiffs as well in terms of their production.
- 18 THE COURT: Is that going to allow people to take
- 19 depositions in a timely manner?
- 20 MR. BRUCE: No. And, Judge, I can't -- I disagree
- 21 with his assertions about the Rule 37 conference, and I just
- 22 can't keep letting him make assertions on the record and
- 23 impugning my character. That is not true. We gave them 4,000
- 24 pages of Plaintiffs' medical patient records, and my
- 25 recollection is that all was in November or December. You

- 1 know, it hasn't been a year. It doesn't take me a year to
- 2 respond to them, but it is anecdotal.
- 3 THE COURT: Okay. All right. We will talk about
- 4 when the documents will be produced.
- 5 MR. SAMORE: Okay. Thank you.
- 6 THE COURT: So then let's -- and at the end of this,
- 7 I'm going to need a certification from the Defendants that
- 8 what has been produced is complete and that is it.
- 9 MR. SAMORE: What we would certify to is what we are
- 10 required to, which is that we have made a reasonable
- 11 investigation and that we have produced every document we
- 12 found pursuant to that investigation.
- 13 THE COURT: Well, I will tell you what the --
- MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 15 THE COURT: I will tell you what the certification
- 16 will be.
- 17 MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 18 THE COURT: Can we continue with my process?
- 19 MR. SAMORE: Yes, your Honor, absolutely.
- THE COURT: Okay. All right. So No. 9, again, we
- 21 are talking about Plaintiffs' Sixth Request For Production of
- 22 Documents. No. 9, "All communications of any kind (whether
- 23 paper, electronic or otherwise) between Defendant and any
- 24 other person or entity (including, but not limited to,
- 25 internal communications), wherein Defendant discussed or

- 1 considered how they would create market demand for this
- 2 product, taking into account any considerations, including,
- 3 but not limited to, the selling price of the PicoSure product
- 4 compared with the selling price of the Revlite product or any
- 5 other machine that is sold by any company to lighten or
- 6 purportedly 'remove' tattoos."
- 7 The Defendant says it is not withholding any
- 8 responsive documents. Is that right?
- 9 MR. SAMORE: Yes, your Honor.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay. All right. So if you are not
- 11 withholding anything, you are not withholding anything.
- Now we are going to hit a vein because we go through
- 13 a bunch where this is all said. Again, we are staying on the
- 14 Plaintiffs' Sixth Request For Production of Documents, and
- 15 No. 10 has a request and a long objection, and then the
- 16 Defendant says it is not withholding any responsive documents.
- 17 So no responsive documents are being withheld for
- 18 No. 10? Everything has been produced?
- 19 MR. SAMORE: We have conducted a reasonable
- 20 investigation, and we have produced -- we have spent hours
- 21 trying to comply with these requests, and we are not
- 22 withholding any that we found were responsive, yes, your
- 23 Honor.
- 24 THE COURT: Okay. The same for No. 11, the same for
- 25 No. 12, the same for No. 13, the same for No. 14, the same for

- 1 No. 15. They all have an objection and then says nothing is
- 2 being withheld. So it is the same representation, correct?
- 3 MR. SAMORE: Yes, your Honor, as I just stated. Yes.
- 4 THE COURT: All right. So let's go to 16.
- 5 MR. BRUCE: Judge, can I just -- I'm sorry.
- 6 THE COURT: Go ahead.
- 7 MR. BRUCE: Just as an example, so Cynosure is
- 8 telling me and you under oath that they have given us every
- 9 e-mail that they had with respect --
- 10 THE COURT: Which number are you on?
- 11 MR. BRUCE: I'm still at 10 because I'm still --
- 12 THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. BRUCE: -- shell shocked.
- 14 THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. BRUCE: They have given us, according to what I
- 16 just heard, every e-mail regarding any marketing materials by
- 17 Cynosure to any purchase of their PicoSure machine? So let's
- 18 just pause and think about this. They had 350 purchasers, let
- 19 alone ones that looked at it and didn't buy. So 350 people
- 20 bought this machine.
- 21 THE COURT: Let me pause you right there, Mr. Bruce.
- MR. BRUCE: Sure.
- THE COURT: Because he hasn't really said that. He
- 24 said it three times, and I'm going to hold him to it, that the
- 25 Defendant has made a reasonable investigation.

- 1 Now, if there is an e-mail server where somebody has
- 2 got a bunch of e-mails, and it comes up in a deposition that
- 3 there were e-mails about this issue and all they needed to do
- 4 was hit print and provide it, well, that doesn't sound like a
- 5 reasonable investigation. But I don't have that before me,
- 6 right? So I think he gets my point.
- 7 MR. BRUCE: I don't know that he does, Judge, that's
- 8 the point. I don't know that he does because there -- I mean,
- 9 there are e-mails that he hasn't given. There has got to be
- 10 e-mails where they said to the guy, a hypothetical, in
- 11 Maryland who bought the machine, "Here is the girl with the
- 12 tattoo, and here is how this thing is going to work out."
- 13 There has to be e-mails, and not only do they have -- I mean,
- 14 we got a reply brief after a year of this, pinning on them.
- In the reply brief, I get sandbagged with some guy
- 16 named James Palastra, who absolutely has no foundation. He
- 17 doesn't say he did any search for any discovery. He didn't
- 18 say he did any e-mail search. He doesn't tell us who did the
- 19 e-mail searches. He doesn't tell how the e-mails were
- 20 searched. I mean, this is preposterous, and now he is saying,
- 21 "Oh, yes, we gave it all."
- 22 THE COURT: Well --
- MR. BRUCE: I mean, I'm hogtied here, Judge, because
- 24 I don't know -- I can't tell you what I don't have because I
- 25 haven't seen it, but I am quite -- I mean, what do I do, fly

- 1 out to New Jersey?
- 2 Judge, I'm going to have to then go out to New Jersey
- 3 or wherever these people are, two or three times, and every
- 4 time I have to prove up that they don't have -- they give me
- 5 e-mails, and I have got to fly back out there again. I mean,
- 6 really, it would be a lot easier if they went and did a search
- 7 and gave me the e-mail.
- 8 I'm sorry, Judge.
- 9 THE COURT: Well, in my notes, it says "reasonable
- 10 investigation???", which is my note to myself saying we are
- 11 going to talk about what the reasonable investigation was.
- 12 And to your point, if that's what happens, there are
- 13 consequences to that and there are remedies for that. If
- 14 that's what turns up, that there are e-mails that are right on
- 15 point, that are in a request, and that it was said that they
- 16 were produced after reasonable investigation, if it turns out
- 17 that's not true, I don't know what your billing rate is, but
- 18 I'm pretty sure it is not --
- 19 MR. BRUCE: It is high. It is high. And just for
- 20 the record, instead of going down that rabbit hole, I would
- 21 much rather have the stuff so I take the dep for the first
- 22 time in a competent and --
- 23 THE COURT: I'm not disagreeing with you, but I can
- 24 only deal with what I have in front of me.
- 25 MR. BRUCE: My billing rate is high, Judge.

- 1 THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Samore.
- 2 MR. SAMORE: We will address -- one of the topics is
- 3 e-mails communications, and we can address that with you in
- 4 some detail, too, if you would like now. So we will get -- I
- 5 think that --
- 6 THE COURT: As much as you're trying to be diverted
- 7 from my path, no one is going to change me, all right? I am
- 8 one stubborn individual. So we are going to keep going
- 9 through this process, and I'm going to see what has been
- 10 resolved.
- 11 MR. SAMORE: Okay. I will --
- 12 THE COURT: We will come back to that.
- 13 MR. SAMORE: I would like to comment on the
- 14 burdensomeness of the investigation because --
- 15 THE COURT: We are going to talk about that.
- 16 MR. SAMORE: We have spent thousands of hours.
- 17 THE COURT: We are going to talk about that.
- 18 MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 19 THE COURT: But my point, again -- I can't make this
- 20 any clearer -- is you are telling me that everything on these
- 21 requests that I have identified, everything that was found
- 22 pursuant to this reasonable investigation, has been produced.
- 23 So I'm going through that checklist so that we have that
- 24 confirmed, okay?
- 25 MR. SAMORE: And, your Honor, I will address the

- 1 burdensomeness of an e-mail investigation.
- THE COURT: Again, we will address burdensomeness
- 3 when I get through this process. So as much as everyone wants
- 4 to divert me, we are going to do it, okay?
- 5 MR. SAMORE: Okay. Thank you.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay. No. 17, "Any and all documents,
- 7 including any e-mails or communications, that Cynosure has had
- 8 with any putative class member regarding their satisfaction or
- 9 opinion about the PicoSure machine." All right. Right? This
- 10 is one where it says documents have been produced in the
- 11 complaint log, but anything else would be burdensome.
- 12 So is it the Defendant's position that if it is not
- in the complaint log, it is not going to produce them?
- 14 MR. SAMORE: Well, this is the Defendant's position.
- 15 THE COURT: Okav.
- 16 MR. SAMORE: Okay. Your Honor, there were about 450
- 17 PicoSures that were sold. We have 150 --
- 18 THE COURT: 450.
- 19 MR. SAMORE: 450.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- 21 MR. SAMORE: Because that 300 number that was
- 22 mentioned was an earlier time frame.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- 24 MR. SAMORE: And there is 450. We have 150 to 200
- 25 people on our sales staff. We have departments in the service

- 1 department. We have got compliance. We have regulatory. We
- 2 have administration. We have trainers, and so forth, and as
- 3 well as legal.
- 4 In order to search all of those e-mails, that would
- 5 be -- it would just be very burdensome, and I would request
- 6 leave to supplement with an affidavit. We just got their
- 7 motion a week and a half ago. We had a week and a half to
- 8 respond to a 35-page motion with -- that addressed 34, and I
- 9 would simply ask for leave to supplement.
- 10 THE COURT: When you say "34," what are you talking
- 11 about?
- MR. SAMORE: What's that?
- THE COURT: You said "34." What are you talking
- 14 about?
- MR. SAMORE: 34 different requests that were the
- 16 subject of their motion.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay.
- 18 MR. SAMORE: And we moved as quickly as we possibly
- 19 could. The woman who was primarily responsible for this was
- 20 on maternity leave the day after, essentially, we had our 37.2
- 21 conference, and I would simply ask leave to supplement.
- But this product has been highly rated by customers
- 23 throughout the website. This is the only lawsuit that has
- 24 been filed against this product. In order to do this search,
- 25 it is going to take -- to search all the e-mails, it will be

- 1 thousands of hours, even before we get to certification. It
- 2 is not relevant. It is not important.
- 3 THE COURT: Well, it is relevant. So you can throw
- 4 that argument aside because it is surely relevant. I made
- 5 that decision multiple times.
- 6 MR. SAMORE: Okay. That's fine.
- 7 THE COURT: Three things for discovery. Is it
- 8 privileged? This is not privileged. Is it relevant? This,
- 9 yes. Is it proportional? That's No. 3.
- 10 MR. SAMORE: Right.
- 11 THE COURT: Those two, the first two don't apply. We
- 12 are talking about the third.
- MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 14 THE COURT: We are going to talk about that.
- MR. BRUCE: I had some -- I didn't mean to interrupt.
- 16 Go ahead.
- 17 MR. SAMORE: Okay. And in addition, I mean, for
- 18 example, just to show you, the Plaintiffs haven't produced,
- 19 that we could find, any written communications of any
- 20 complaints about the effectiveness of this product before they
- 21 filed a lawsuit. There is an independent website that this
- 22 product is one of the most highly rated products in the
- 23 industry that's put out by the various customer views. There
- 24 is just no -- I mean --
- 25 THE COURT: And that may be all true, and that will

- 1 be great evidence to present to seven people we put in the
- 2 jury box, but their point is not true.
- 3 MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 4 THE COURT: And if there is complaints, they are
- 5 entitled to get them.
- 6 MR. SAMORE: The complaints, we have a
- 7 regulatory -- that's -- that we are on very firm ground
- 8 because we have -- we are heavily regulated by the FDA. We
- 9 have policies and procedures in place that train people to
- 10 report all complaints, and we produced them all. There just
- 11 have been very few, and we are required --
- 12 THE COURT: Let's circle back around to my question.
- MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 14 THE COURT: Which was -- and it is a yes or no -- is
- 15 it Defendant's position that it has produced this complaint
- 16 log and won't produce anything else?
- 17 MR. SAMORE: It is our position that to conduct an
- 18 e-mail search of 450 separate purchasers, finding their names,
- 19 the one to five different salespeople that could have dealt
- 20 with them, along with the service people that would have
- 21 serviced the unit, the people that would have trained them,
- 22 that is unduly burdensome.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- 24 MR. SAMORE: Or not -- strike that -- or not
- 25 proportional to the needs of the case at this point in time.

- 1 THE COURT: Okay.
- 2 MR. BRUCE: I'm dying to comment on this, whenever he
- 3 is finished and you will allow me.
- 4 THE COURT: I just need to write the word "yes."
- 5 Go ahead.
- 6 MR. BRUCE: Judge, I think what I just heard from
- 7 Mr. Samore is, at one level, some of these issues are pretty
- 8 straightforward and basic. I'm saying that the machine
- 9 doesn't work as they had the women with the tattoos. That is
- 10 misleading, those ladies. I'm saying it doesn't do that. And
- 11 contrary to what he says, I think when this fleshes out, there
- 12 is going to be a lot of evidence, I think, of this machine not
- 13 doing what they put in that picture, okay?
- 14 So in any product liability case or case of this
- 15 manner, I am just asking for complaints. And before you say
- 16 it or he says it, I'm readily embracing the fact that some of
- 17 these interrogatories, requests to produce, they overlap,
- 18 right? I'm trying to get them to give me the complaints where
- 19 people were not satisfied and said, "This thing doesn't work.
- 20 It doesn't do what you told us." And I'm trying to get that.
- 21 Where I get that, it is basic form of law.
- I think I just heard Mr. Samore shockingly say,
- 23 implicitly, although not expressly, is "We haven't looked."
- 24 That's what I heard him say. I think he just said, "We
- 25 haven't looked." What he said is "Judge, give us some more

- 1 time, after we have wasted six or nine months," and now you
- 2 are going to be on me about "Mr. Bruce, you have got to get
- 3 these deps done." Your Honor, I'm just saying we have wasted
- 4 six or nine months. Whenever all this stuff was filed, he sat
- 5 in the background and had not gone out and done any type of
- 6 e-mail search for this stuff. They want to give me some
- 7 little paper log that says, "This is what we keep and this is
- 8 the complaints."
- 9 I'm asking for stuff far broader than that. I'm
- 10 asking for people that are dissatisfied. I want the e-mail
- 11 correspondence between the people who bought this thing and
- 12 their company. That's what I want. And it is not
- 13 complicated. And I don't want to play a semantics game, like,
- 14 "Well, you used the word 'needed.'" I don't -- that's
- 15 not -- I mean, it is clear what I'm looking for. And I think
- 16 I just heard Mr. Samore say implicitly, not expressly, they
- 17 haven't done anything.
- 18 So now he is saying at the eleventh hour, after we
- 19 have gone and done all these Rule 37 conferences and they have
- 20 completely stonewalled, they have not answered 80 percent of
- 21 my discovery I have sent to them, now he is saying, "Give us
- 22 more time to get together an affidavit," for somebody that is
- 23 going to show that e-mail is too difficult. Judge, they
- 24 should have done that before. He is making oral
- 25 representations to you with no basis at all.

- 1 My understanding of the federal case law is very
- 2 clear. He has got to come with an affidavit, and it is not in
- 3 the reply brief from somebody that said -- there was no
- 4 attestation by this guy Palastra --
- 5 THE COURT: Hold on one sec.
- 6 Have you caught up, Heather?
- 7 THE REPORTER: Yes.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay.
- 9 MR. BRUCE: There was no attestation from this guy
- 10 Palastra what role he played in the discovery, whether he ever
- 11 looked at an e-mail, who looked at an e-mail, what searches
- 12 they had, nothing.
- So now at the eleventh hour, he throws this one-page
- 14 thing at you and says, "Well, here is the proof." Now he is
- 15 saying, "I want more time. I want more time to go and do
- 16 this." This is ridiculous. I would object to him
- 17 having -- you know, to get some paid person from Cynosure to
- 18 come and say, "Oh, it is all burdensome." He has had six
- 19 months to do it. I object to that. I object to that.
- I want somebody to go and give me the e-mails from
- 21 these people so we can see what they truly thought about this,
- 22 and, you know, he is trying to take you in a different
- 23 direction. "Well, people are very satisfied with this."
- 24 Well, I would like to test that.
- 25 THE COURT: I said you would have the opportunity to

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1 test that.
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- 2 MR. BRUCE: Thank you.
- 3 THE COURT: You can make that pitch to the seven
- 4 people in the jury box, and we will have that information, and
- 5 as I said, it is relevant. It is the issue of
- 6 proportionality.
- 7 MS. LONG: Judge --
- 8 THE COURT: Nope, nope, nope, nope, nope, nope, nope.
- 9 Done.
- 10 No. 19 --
- MR. SAMORE: Your Honor --
- 12 THE COURT: No.
- 13 No. 19 --
- 14 MR. SAMORE: Your Honor, we did an e-mail -- he made
- 15 a false representation.
- 16 THE COURT: We are going to come back to that.
- 17 MR. SAMORE: We did an e-mail --
- 18 THE COURT: Do you understand the word "no"?
- 19 MR. SAMORE: I do.
- 20 THE COURT: Okay. Then listen to me.
- No. 19, "Any and all market surveys, studies,
- 22 internal e-mails, and/or correspondence regarding the value of
- 23 used or aftermarket PicoSure machines."
- Defendant's contend they are not withholding any
- 25 responsive documents. Again, true?

- 1 MR. SAMORE: We have -- yes, it is the same response.
- 2 We have conducted a reasonable investigation. We have
- 3 produced everything we have found.
- 4 THE COURT: No. 20, "Any and all market surveys,
- 5 studies, price lists, and/or internal e-mails regarding the
- 6 cost of any alternative tattoo 'removal' or tattoo lightening
- 7 machines on the market."
- 8 Again, the Defendant is representing to the court
- 9 that they are not withholding any responsive documents after
- 10 this reasonable investigation, correct?
- 11 MS. LONG: Yes.
- 12 THE COURT: Okay. The same for 22, 23, 24, right?
- MR. HOLEVAS: Your Honor, can I have those numbers
- 14 again? I'm sorry.
- MS. LONG: Yes.
- 16 THE COURT: 22, 23, 24.
- MR. HOLEVAS: Thank you.
- 18 THE COURT: All right. So their representation is
- 19 that they have conducted a reasonable investigation and they
- 20 are not withholding any documents, correct?
- MS. LONG: Yes.
- 22 THE COURT: Okay. So, hopefully, that made some
- 23 headway.
- I think I stated early on, if it is disproportional
- 25 or someone is saying burdensome, I need facts, and I just

- 1 don't have facts. I have got conclusions, but not facts.
- 2 But let's go to Plaintiffs' Six Request For
- 3 Production, No. 4: "Any and all contracts, letters,
- 4 communications, e-mails, and/or correspondence with any
- 5 modeling agency, model, and/or third party regarding the
- 6 advertisements utilized by Cynosure to market or advertise
- 7 where in which any tattoo was 'photoshopped' on to a model.
- 8 "Objection, burdensome and relevance."
- 9 I don't know how it is possibly not relevant. How is
- 10 it not relevant? Their whole claim from day one is they are
- 11 showing pictures with models with a butterfly in one picture
- 12 and no butterfly in another picture, and they are saying it is
- 13 false advertising. How would that not be relevant?
- 14 MS. LONG: Your Honor, our relevance argument was
- 15 based on the idea that there was an actual modeling company
- 16 and saying, "Hey, can we have a model come on Monday from 1:00
- 17 to 5:00." It is not substantive enough to be relevant, but
- 18 this is included in the requests that we will supplement. We
- 19 will give them those e-mails.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- 21 MS. LONG: I don't know that they are going to have
- 22 what they think they are going to have in them, but --
- THE COURT: It is not just e-mails. It is letters,
- 24 communications, e-mails, and correspondence, okay? So you
- 25 will produce those as well?

- 1 MS. LONG: We will conduct a reasonable search for
- 2 those and produce.
- 3 THE COURT: Well, what kind of time frame is that?
- 4 Because, again, it seems pretty relevant.
- 5 MR. SAMORE: Yes. Well, I think that we should have
- 6 three weeks. I think the three-week time frame would be fine.
- 7 They had our first set of production requests since January.
- 8 We didn't get responses until December. We have not -- my
- 9 point is that we have not been the cause of any delay in the
- 10 written discovery. We served one set. They waited almost a
- 11 year to comply. And three weeks is a reasonable period of
- 12 time to request.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. Well, how long it takes for your
- 14 client to get the documents together has nothing to do with
- 15 what they did or did not do in response to your request,
- 16 right? It is a non sequitur. It is a debater's point is what
- 17 it is, right? You are both going to point the finger and say,
- 18 "You guys are going to delay. You guys are going to delay."
- 19 To me, it doesn't matter. I don't care what he did. I care
- 20 how fast you can get these clearly relevant documents to the
- 21 Plaintiffs. So we will talk about that three-week time frame,
- 22 okay?
- Shouldn't that be -- do we need discovery on that?
- 24 Isn't that a stipulation? I mean, didn't --
- 25 MS. LONG: Yes. I mean, that was the other relevant

- 1 thought, was that we are not arguing that we didn't do these.
- 2 We are not arguing this wasn't photoshopped. We told them it
- 3 was photoshopped.
- 4 THE COURT: Well, did you tell them you would
- 5 stipulate to it?
- 6 Did you tell them you would stipulate to it?
- 7 MR. SAMORE: We stipulated to it. We admitted it in
- 8 our responses, which is what got, you know, this position we
- 9 are in.
- MR. BRUCE: That's not true, Judge. They answered
- 11 one thing on one photograph, and then that's what they said
- 12 was photoshopped.
- But I want to answer the question, because you bring
- 14 up a good question, Judge. If you look at Request to Produce
- 15 No. 4, it says, "Any and all contracts, letters,
- 16 communications, e-mails with any modeling agency, model, or a
- 17 third party regarding the advertisements used by Cynosure to
- 18 market or advertise where in any tattoo was photoshopped on to
- 19 a model."
- So, Judge, I can think of a myriad of examples, and
- 21 just tell me when you have had enough, why this might be
- 22 highly relevant.
- 23 THE COURT: I think it is relevant.
- MR. BRUCE: Oh, okay.
- 25 THE COURT: I don't need to be convinced of that. I

- 1 have been saying it is relevant.
- 2 MR. BRUCE: Okay.
- 3 THE COURT: Okay. Talked about. Talked about.
- 4 Talked about. Talked about.
- 5 Okay. I'm going to need some help on this one.
- 6 Plaintiffs' Sixth Request For Production, No. 18, I don't
- 7 understand the request and I don't understand the response, so
- 8 I can't rule on it with any certainty.
- 9 No. 18 is "Any and all video clips, digital or
- 10 electronic downloads, and/or paper copies of any of the named
- 11 plaintiffs to the instant lawsuit, including websites,
- 12 brochures or advertisements, but not limited to all
- 13 marketing/advertisement of products of the PicoSure product by
- 14 the named plaintiffs."
- So, Mr. Bruce, what are you looking for?
- MR. BRUCE: Yes, so it is very -- it is very simple.
- 17 Mr. Samore's response seemingly -- or one of his responses to
- 18 this is "Your dermatology practices, your tattoo removal
- 19 practices made certain advertisements on the Internet for
- 20 their services." Okay. They made certain representations for
- 21 their services, and he wants to use that, notwithstanding the
- 22 fact that we got them from their client, right? That's a
- 23 little fact he is going to have to get over with those seven
- 24 people over there. But they have their own advertisements out
- 25 there and brochures.

- 1 THE COURT: Who is "they"?
- MR. BRUCE: My clients, the dermatology practices and
- 3 the tattoo removal practices.
- 4 THE COURT: Okay.
- 5 MR. BRUCE: So I'm asking for video clips, downloads
- 6 of the -- that's why I said "of the named plaintiffs to the
- 7 instant lawsuit."
- 8 So he is saying, "Oh, Devon, your people advertised
- 9 this. Your people advertised." Okay. "Well, give me what
- 10 you got." I know he has downloaded them. Just give them to
- 11 me. He is going to use them at the deps. He is going to want
- 12 to use them at trial. And if he doesn't want to give them to
- 13 me, that's fine. We will just preclude him -- I will have a
- 14 motion, which I think will be well brought, now or at the
- 15 trial. If he doesn't have them, that's fine, we are not going
- 16 to get into it. But if that's his defense, and he is telling
- 17 me that -- he is suggesting that he has them, I would like
- 18 them.
- 19 MR. GRAVINO: Judge, if I could add one thing very
- 20 briefly. I think the other reason we asked for this, when
- 21 Devon and I talked, is there are websites that go up and then
- 22 they come down, and there are these web crawlers that go, and
- 23 they will take a picture of the website, and they archive this
- 24 stuff. I have been through this in commercial cases. So I
- 25 will ask my client, "Can I see your website?" And they will

- 1 say, "Well, here it is now, but I can't tell what it was a
- 2 year ago." They are evolving. We don't know if they have
- 3 archived historical websites and things of that nature.
- 4 That's why the simple answer might be "Well, go print your own
- 5 client's websites off there. You know what they are." It is
- 6 these historical ones, clips that may have been posted and are
- 7 no longer available. We want to make sure we are not
- 8 sandbagged when they sit down to take depositions, that
- 9 everything they have, we have in advance.
- MS. LONG: I mean, we don't have --
- 11 THE COURT: Hold on.
- MS. LONG: Okay.
- 13 THE COURT: So what Mr. Bruce is saying, and your
- 14 position -- I get your position, that makes perfect sense, is
- 15 "Look, if you guys are whining and complaining about these
- 16 machines, but meanwhile you are advertising them as they are
- 17 the greatest things since cold beer, we want to see those
- 18 statements," because they support your position that the
- 19 machines are good. That makes sense.
- 20 What they are asking for, now that I have read it in
- 21 that context, is, "Okay, do you have us making those
- 22 statements, so we can -- you know, we can -- we are ready for
- 23 brutal cross-examination."
- MS. LONG: I'm not sure how they can be sandbagged by
- 25 something that they themselves said.

- 1 THE COURT: All right.
- 2 MS. LONG: If they put it out there, they put it out
- 3 there. So I'm not sure how they could claim that we would be
- 4 hiding it from them. If they want me to go to their --
- 5 THE COURT: Is it privileged? No. Is it relevant?
- 6 Yes. Is it disproportionate?
- 7 MS. LONG: Is it in our possession, custody, and
- 8 control.
- 9 THE COURT: Well, that's an easy answer. Then it
- 10 would just be "We don't have it." But that's not your answer
- 11 to that question. But on all the other ones, you told me when
- 12 you didn't. So when I see that, it raises questions.
- MS. LONG: If they want us to go to their website and
- 14 print it out and produce it to them, fine.
- 15 THE COURT: You don't have to produce it if it is not
- in your possession, custody, or control.
- 17 Do you have the type of documents or does your client
- 18 have the type of documents that they have just identified?
- 19 MS. LONG: We have looked at their website. I think
- 20 we have probably downloaded it. I can produce to them their
- 21 downloaded website. But I think we want to make sure we are
- 22 not precluded from using -- if we have not used any historical
- 23 web crawlers to look back at previous things, and we do so, I
- 24 don't see why we should be precluded from using it.
- THE COURT: In the future?

- 1 MS. LONG: Yes.
- THE COURT: Sure, as long as it is done before the
- 3 supplementation date, which is in the case management order.
- 4 So if you are going to do it, do it before the supplementation
- 5 date, and then you are going to have to produce those. But if
- 6 you don't have it, you don't have it. That's the simple
- 7 answer.
- Now, it sounds like you have downloaded some, so
- 9 produce it.
- 10 MR. SAMORE: There was a newspaper article in which
- 11 their clients said this was the greatest machine, and "It is
- 12 fantastic. We love it."
- 13 THE COURT: Okay.
- 14 MR. SAMORE: And we will produce that. We are happy
- 15 to produce that to them. We mentioned that at the last
- 16 hearing, too.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay.
- 18 MR. GRAVINO: That was in the early stages, Judge,
- 19 before the fog lifted.
- 20 MR. SAMORE: After they used it 200 times.
- 21 MR. BRUCE: It sounds like Mr. Samore wants to try
- 22 this case.
- THE COURT: We need more trials, and I don't mean
- 24 that sarcastically. We need more trials.
- 25 Okay. So that takes care of 18. If you have got

- 1 them -- you don't have to go get them. But if you have
- 2 downloaded them, they are entitled to them, and you will
- 3 produce those as well.
- 4 Response. Okay. No. 21, again, I do not understand
- 5 the request or response. So maybe we can make some headway
- 6 like we did on the last one.
- 7 MR. BRUCE: I'm sorry?
- 8 THE COURT: 21.
- 9 MR. BRUCE: Their response or my request?
- 10 THE COURT: Your request 21. I didn't understand the
- 11 request or the response.
- 12 So No. 21 says: "Any and all contracts, agreements,
- 13 correspondence, and/or e-mails between Cynosure and Doc Web
- 14 Services regarding the creation of web advertisements for the
- 15 sale or marketing of the PicoSure product."
- So what are you looking at? How is that relevant?
- MR. BRUCE: So, Judge, this didn't make any sense
- 18 because you don't know who "Doc Web" is.
- 19 THE COURT: I do not know, and I have questions about
- 20 other people that were asked.
- 21 So who is Doc Web?
- MR. BRUCE: So Doc Web, apparently, what Cynosure
- 23 did, and I can't tell you in all circumstances because they
- 24 stonewalled, but at least as to one of my clients, if not
- 25 more, they say -- Cynosure says, "Hey, you have got your

- 1 dermatology practice," which it would be that -- that's the
- 2 only type of client, dermatology practice or a lightening
- 3 tattoo parlor, okay? They say, "Hey, you buy this machine,
- 4 and we will help you advertise, and, by the way, here are some
- 5 examples to put up on your website, " right?
- 6 THE COURT: Okay.
- 7 MR. BRUCE: It is just basically the
- 8 misrepresentations they made to our clients, and then they
- 9 say, "Okay, go ahead and make them to your people by putting
- 10 them up on your website," but they also said, "Go to Doc Web
- 11 Services."
- 12 THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. BRUCE: That's a third-party company, and they
- 14 said, "If you want to, you can hire them, and they know all
- 15 about us, and we work with them, and they can help advertise
- 16 the PicoSure machine services." That's what is Doc Web.
- 17 So it is a third-party company that Cynosure told the
- 18 purchasers of the machine that they could utilize if they want
- 19 to get help in advertising the services for the PicoSure
- 20 machine, and the genesis of this request to produce No. 21 is
- 21 to find out all of the e-mails and correspondence because,
- 22 hypothetically, there may be communications between Cynosure
- 23 and the third-party thing, these Doc Web people, where Doc Web
- 24 people are saying, "Hey, we are helping advertise this stuff,
- 25 but people are giving us feedback. It doesn't do what it is

- 1 supposed to do," this type of thing. "What do you want us to
- 2 represent for these purchasers of your machine? What do you
- 3 want us to push on these people in terms of how to advertise
- 4 it?" I don't know what is out there, but it is certainly not
- 5 privileged. And they haven't proven anybody that says it is
- 6 burdensome. And so that's why we want it.
- 7 THE COURT: All right.
- 8 MR. GRAVINO: It is one company, too, Judge.
- 9 THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Samore -- or Ms. Long.
- 10 MS. LONG: Yes, we can produce it. We have got a
- 11 limited number of e-mails where the company basically provides
- 12 to Doc Web the name of purchasers who have purchased this.
- 13 THE COURT: That Cynosure provides the documents?
- 14 MS. LONG: Yes. Cynosure basically sends Doc Web the
- 15 name of the purchaser who has purchased this optional
- 16 marketing package. All substantive communications regarding
- 17 that happened between Doc Web and the purchaser.
- 18 THE COURT: So it almost is a broker kind of --
- MS. LONG: Yes, it is a very minimal.
- THE COURT: "These are the guys. Go see them."
- 21 MS. LONG: Yes. It is a very middleman-type
- 22 position. We can produce those e-mails.
- I think one thing in particular here, I think we have
- 24 gotten a fair number of invoices for them that would simply
- 25 be -- there would be no contents about the efficacy of the

- 1 PicoSure machine, and it would basically be a request for
- 2 finances.
- 3 THE COURT: You want to see invoices? There is no
- 4 substance to that.
- 5 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Gravino?
- 6 MR. GRAVINO: It may go to bias, Judge. I don't
- 7 know.
- 8 MS. LONG: There is thousands of them.
- 9 THE COURT: All right.
- 10 MS. LONG: We can give them a limited number of
- 11 e-mails. Again, this is one of those things where I think
- 12 that they are not going to be very excited about what they
- 13 see, but we will give them what we have got.
- 14 MR. BRUCE: I was going to say at this point in time,
- 15 Judge, to be lawyerly about it, I will just say we will
- 16 narrowly, based on her -- I mean, this is the first time I'm
- 17 hearing that. We will just agree on not to ask for the
- 18 invoices at this time.
- 19 THE COURT: All right. So the communication, sort of
- 20 that setup e-mail, things like that, those things can be
- 21 produced, but no invoices.
- See, they have invoices. All right.
- Okay. No. 25, again, I don't know who the parties
- 24 are here, so I don't know how it fits in. "All contracts,
- 25 agreements, correspondence, and/or e-mails between any agent,

- 1 employee of Cynosure and Dr. Stephen" -- or
- 2 Stephen -- "Mulholland, Sarah Brice, and Lori Mackey,"
- 3 M-a-c-k-e-y. I have no idea who those people are, so I don't
- 4 know how it is relevant. I need something more. So flesh
- 5 this out for me.
- 6 MR. BRUCE: Sure. I believe, and I'm sure
- 7 Mr. Samore will correct me if I'm mistaken, in terms of, A,
- 8 and this -- and I just want you to know and Mr. Samore to know
- 9 where my head is on this. They go around and they get these
- 10 doctors to help espouse and talk about how great the PicoSure
- 11 machine is. Upon information and belief -- I'm not
- 12 representing this to the court -- upon information and belief,
- 13 some or perhaps many of these doctors are well-compensated
- 14 either through salary, stipends, expenses, et cetera, okay?
- So to the extent that any of the studies he is going
- 16 to start citing to you or any of the witnesses that he
- 17 contemplates calling at trial are these doctors that they have
- 18 and that they are paying in any way, shape, or form, he is
- 19 going to see a similar request from me. If they are going to
- 20 use them, that goes directly to bias. I get to know what
- 21 Cynosure has paid these people, and if he is going to say, as
- 22 an officer of the court, never been paid, no contracts, they
- 23 just do it because they love the machine, that's fine.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- 25 MR. BRUCE: So that's Mulholland. And then Sarah

- 1 Brice and Lori Mackey, again, these are a different kettle of
- 2 fish. These people are in a different category. My
- 3 understanding is that these people were key people in Cynosure
- 4 that dealt with the PicoSure machine.
- 5 It is a matter of course, Judge, whether it is a
- 6 medical malpractice case, a trucking case, or any of a litany
- 7 of other -- I didn't want to rain on you with case law. I'm
- 8 happy to do that. We always ask for the personnel file,
- 9 especially for those people. If he wants to redact their
- 10 medical records, appropriate redactions, I deal with that.
- 11 You deal with that all the time. These are main corporate
- 12 employees of the Defendant.
- 13 THE COURT: This isn't seeking personnel files. It
- 14 is contracts, agreements, correspondence, and e-mails.
- 15 MR. BRUCE: Yes, okay, so poorly worded. Well, I
- 16 certainly want all that, and then we can ask for the personnel
- 17 file at a subsequent time. But certainly that's the genesis
- 18 of this.
- 19 THE COURT: Okay.
- 20 MS. LONG: So --
- 21 THE COURT: Let's start with Mulholland,
- 22 Dr. Mulholland, first.
- MS. LONG: My understanding, and this is somewhat
- 24 limited -- your Honor, I have only been on this case a month;
- 25 I'm taking over for the woman who is on maternity leave, so

- 1 forgive me for a little bit of lack of knowledge here -- he is
- 2 a consultant. He does go around and talk about PicoSure. He
- 3 goes to conferences and things. I'm not sure that any e-mail
- 4 that he has ever sent to the company, you know, would be
- 5 relevant. I'm just not -- they don't make any allegations
- 6 about him in their complaint. Are they going to ask this
- 7 about everyone we have ever employed, who we have ever given
- 8 any kind of stipend to attend any kind of conference? Where
- 9 does it end?
- MR. SAMORE: He is not listed as a witness of ours,
- 11 and they haven't alleged that they attended any of his
- 12 conferences. This appears to be a fishing expedition.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay.
- 14 MR. SAMORE: If we were retaining him -- if we had
- 15 disclosed him as a witness to testify, he would be on firmer
- 16 ground.
- 17 MR. BRUCE: Judge, I can --
- 18 MR. SAMORE: But there is no allegation that the
- 19 Plaintiffs had anything to do with this individual.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- 21 MR. BRUCE: Yes, I didn't mean to interrupt
- 22 Mr. Samore.
- 23 First of all, the last time I checked, I don't need
- 24 to allege something in my complaint with respect to a matter
- 25 like this in order for it to be discoverable, let alone

- 1 relevant. This guy is their A-team poster child. He flies
- 2 around the country, and he talks about how great this very
- 3 machine is. That's what this guy does. And contrary
- 4 to -- because we have never gotten to deps, he would find out
- 5 that some of my clients have gone to seminars in which he was
- 6 in attendance, but I don't need to allege that, nor do I need
- 7 to -- and even if that wasn't true, that doesn't restrict me
- 8 from asking about this guy.
- 9 They want to use this guy as their poster child,
- 10 Cynosure does, to go around and promote and sell this stuff.
- 11 I think every e-mail between him and Cynosure is highly
- 12 discoverable. We are not at relevance. It is highly
- 13 discoverable because it is about him peddling this machine.
- 14 THE COURT: It doesn't say that. So if he sends an
- 15 e-mail to the IT department and says, "I have the blue screen
- of death," that would be captured, but it is certainly not
- 17 relevant to the case, right?
- MR. BRUCE: Absolutely, Judge. We will narrow it.
- 19 will narrow the e-mail request, anything -- any and all
- 20 references to the PicoSure machine. That's fine. And same
- 21 with correspondence.
- 22 THE COURT: Produce any contracts or agreements with
- 23 Dr. Stephen Mulholland. I can see how that is relevant.
- 24 MS. LONG: We could produce the contract, I think.
- MR. SAMORE: Yes.

- 1 THE COURT: The contract, agreement, whatever you
- 2 want to call it.
- 3 MR. SAMORE: Thank you.
- 4 MS. LONG: Master document.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay. Correspondence and e-mails,
- 6 especially if it is somebody who is not -- if it is not on
- 7 their 26(a)(1), which means they are not testifying, I think
- 8 that is overbroad at this point. But if something comes up in
- 9 a deposition, I can revisit it.
- 10 Sarah Brice and Lori Mackey, who are they, and how do
- 11 they fit into this?
- MS. LONG: Yes. So Sarah Brice, my understanding is
- 13 that she is also a nurse in our sort of clinical area. So
- 14 that similar to Doc Web as a person, she is also kind of a
- 15 consultant nurse. So it is similar to Doc Web in that we
- 16 middleman to them for marketing. We middleman to her for
- 17 clinical issues. So I think the majority of the
- 18 communications with Sarah Brice are sort of, you know, how
- 19 does this thing work.
- 20 Again, I'm not sure what they -- you know, whether
- 21 they interacted with her. We could produce -- my
- 22 understanding is that she is a consultant. So I would say
- 23 that I think we probably have a consultant agreement with her.
- 24 I can't say a hundred percent.
- 25 THE COURT: Well, that's in your possession, custody,

- 1 and control.
- 2 MS. LONG: But I can ask the client to go back and
- 3 look for that.
- 4 Lori Mackey would not have a contract. She is a
- 5 current Cynosure employee in the contracting department.
- 6 THE COURT: What does that mean, "contracting
- 7 department"?
- 8 MS. LONG: I think that that has to do with the
- 9 initial purchasing.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay.
- 11 MS. LONG: But I can't give you more specifics beyond
- 12 that as to what her role and responsibilities are. But the
- 13 way that this request is worded now, you know, it is a single
- 14 Cynosure employee, any e-mail that she ever sent to anyone
- 15 else in the company.
- 16 THE COURT: All right. If you have contracts or
- 17 agreements for Sarah Brice or Lori Mackey, produce those, and
- 18 produce any correspondence or e-mails between Sarah Brice and
- 19 Lori Mackey with any of the named plaintiffs.
- MS. LONG: Okay. I think we have already done that,
- 21 but we will confirm. We may have.
- 22 THE COURT: Okay. That's what you are going to do --
- MS. LONG: Yes.
- 24 THE COURT: -- if you haven't done it already.
- 25 MR. BRUCE: And just so you don't think ill of me,

- 1 based on your ruling --
- 2 THE COURT: I don't think ill of you.
- 3 MR. BRUCE: No, no, because I don't want you to be
- 4 like "Why is he doing that? I just said no."
- 5 So if they are not willing -- they don't represent
- 6 this man, Dr. Stephen Mulholland. He is part of their
- 7 whole -- this is a false advertising case, right? I'm saying
- 8 the machine doesn't work, that is. They have got this man on
- 9 retainer. Now I'm just learning that I was right. Upon
- 10 information and belief, what I told you I didn't know now has
- 11 been confirmed. He is on -- they are paying this guy. They
- 12 are paying this guy to go out and peddle this.
- This is a false advertising case. It is obvious to
- 14 me that communications between them and him about how to sell
- 15 this machine is not only discoverable and relevant. I
- 16 understand your ruling. You are saying he is not an employee
- 17 of theirs and they don't have to give us the e-mails.
- 18 Probably today, if today is Monday, by Good Friday, I'm going
- 19 to serve by Friday, I'm going to serve this man, wherever he
- 20 lives, with a subpoena asking for any and all e-mails between
- 21 Cynosure and them, and then they might come running in here
- 22 saying, "Well, we represent him." I just don't -- I mean, I
- 23 don't want to -- we are going around in circles.
- 24 THE COURT: We will see how that goes. And I'm not
- 25 going to be here Good Friday.

- 1 MR. BRUCE: Okay. All right. I will issue the
- 2 subpoena. Thank you.
- 3 THE COURT: Okay. Hold on one second. It's 2:45.
- 4 When did we start, 1:30?
- 5 Why don't we take a quick review.
- 6 Okay. We are going to take a quick break. Some, but
- 7 not all, of the things we will talk about when we get back are
- 8 the attorney-client issue -- attorney-client privilege issue
- 9 with regard to, I believe it is, Defendant's Interrogatory
- 10 No. 18. We need to talk about that.
- 11 We definitely need to talk about what the
- 12 investigation has entailed to date.
- MR. BRUCE: I'm sorry?
- 14 THE COURT: What the reasonable investigation has
- 15 entailed to date.
- And then we are definitely talking about how a
- 17 company doesn't know the price of its product that it sold,
- 18 okay? Because that I'm just -- I'm going to have real trouble
- 19 wrapping my head around.
- Okay. We will take a quick break, and then we will
- 21 come back and talk about those three things and anything else
- 22 we need to talk about, okay?
- MR. BRUCE: Okay. Thank you, Judge.
- MR. SAMORE: Thank you.
- 25 (Recess taken.)

- 1 THE COURT: Okay. Let's talk about -- and that was
- 2 supposed to be the easy part. That was the easy part. Now we
- 3 are heading into the teeth of the matter.
- 4 Let's talk about -- I think both of you wanted to
- 5 talk about -- it seems like you are both loaded for bear on
- 6 this. It is the attorney-client privilege issue.
- 7 Hold on here.
- Yes, okay, it is defendant's motion to compel,
- 9 Interrogatory 18, "Identify any and all bases for your
- 10 allegations that Cynosure 'knew' or 'was aware' its
- 11 representations regarding the PicoSure product were false."
- And then we have got an attorney-client issue. We
- 13 have got all kinds of things. Attorney-client issues, these
- 14 type of things, are really fact driven.
- So let me hear from Mr. Samore. Give me some
- 16 context. I understand the request, but give me some context
- 17 for it. I want to hear what your perspective is. And then I
- 18 will ask Mr. Bruce.
- 19 Go ahead, Mr. Samore or Ms. Long, either one.
- 20 MR. SAMORE: This is our request for their
- 21 communications with class members. It is very simple --
- MS. LONG: It is not, no.
- MR. SAMORE: I just want to make sure I'm on the
- 24 right topic.
- THE COURT: Interrogatory 18.

- 1 MR. SAMORE: Defendant's Interrogatory 18.
- THE COURT: Yes.
- 3 MS. LONG: Yes.
- 4 MR. SAMORE: Yes. So, essentially, Plaintiffs have
- 5 the burden of establishing a privilege. There is no question
- 6 that communications between putative class counsel and
- 7 putative members is not attorney-client privilege under normal
- 8 circumstances. In their response, for the first time they
- 9 asserted that they were being consulted and were providing
- 10 consulting professional services.
- 11 My position is if that's the case, I think we can
- 12 deal with this very quickly. They clearly have the obligation
- 13 to identify who they spoke with, when they spoke with them,
- 14 the subject matter, and so forth, in order to lay a foundation
- 15 for the privilege.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Mr. Bruce, give me
- 17 some context here.
- 18 MR. BRUCE: This is first semester of law school,
- 19 Judge. If I gave him what he is asking for, the ARDC would
- 20 have my ticket. If Joe Jones in Nebraska hears about this
- 21 lawsuit and calls me, e-mails me, sends me a letter and says,
- 22 "Hey, I want to join. Tell me about your lawsuit. I have got
- 23 this thing. It is a piece of, you know, whatever," that's him
- 24 seeking my counsel, period, full stop, end of story. We don't
- 25 have to go through the charade of attorney-client privilege.

- 1 End of story. That is protected, and that is protected
- 2 whether or not I ultimately decide to take him on as a client,
- 3 whether he decides to keep me as a lawyer. I can't give that
- 4 information at all.
- 5 And his suggestion is laughable that I'm going to go
- 6 through all these different communications and say, "Okay,
- 7 this guy called me on this date, this guy." Is he going to
- 8 give me every privilege log of him and Cynosure? No, I didn't
- 9 ask for that, and that's not --
- 10 THE COURT: That's mutually assured destruction.
- 11 That's mad. But I'm not so sure that's what they are asking
- 12 for.
- MR. BRUCE: Well, that's what I heard him ask.
- 14 THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead. I will come back to you
- 15 in a second.
- MR. BRUCE: He told me he wants those communications,
- 17 and I'm saying they are privileged, period, full stop, end of
- 18 story.
- 19 THE COURT: Okay. I think they are looking for
- 20 something broader and different, so let me find out.
- 21 MS. LONG: So we don't dispute if Joe Jones calls you
- 22 up and says, "Hey, give me some legal advice about that
- 23 lawsuit," even if you haven't signed a retainer, that's
- 24 privileged. Great. Put it down if you have a written copy of
- 25 that. Obviously, if it is a phone call, there is no privilege

- 1 log for that. If there is a document, there is an e-mail,
- 2 tell me Joe Jones sent it to you, tell me who it was and say,
- 3 "Requesting information about this litigation." You have to
- 4 support the privilege.
- If Joe Jones sends you an e-mail and says, "I can't
- 6 believe you are doing this litigation; I love the PicoSure; It
- 7 is fantastic; This litigation is terrible," that's not seeking
- 8 legal advice. Every communication between a person and a
- 9 lawyer is not privileged. It has to be for the purpose of
- 10 seeking legal advice.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay. All right. So they are -- it is
- 12 an assumption that somebody called you, that they saw the
- 13 lawsuit and were angry.
- 14 MR. BRUCE: I will say as an officer of the court
- 15 that I have received no communications that I recall since I
- 16 started this lawsuit with people calling or communicating,
- 17 saying, "I bought it. It is a great thing."
- 18 THE COURT: All right.
- 19 MR. BRUCE: I will say that.
- 20 THE COURT: Anybody call and complain about the
- 21 lawsuit, other than opposing counsel?
- MS. LONG: How about any communications that didn't
- 23 request legal advice?
- MR. BRUCE: No, I'm not --
- MS. LONG: They are not privileged.

- 1 THE COURT: Hold on.
- 2 How would it be relevant, then?
- 3 MS. LONG: Related to the litigation.
- 4 THE COURT: Okay. So if he gets a call from a
- 5 reporter, would that need to be produced?
- 6 MS. LONG: No, because we have putative class
- 7 members.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay.
- 9 MS. LONG: The request is limited to putative class
- 10 members.
- 11 THE COURT: So someone who purchased the machine, who
- 12 called, communicated in some manner with Plaintiffs' counsel
- 13 about the litigation. So it is people who, by definition,
- 14 purchased the machine, contacted Plaintiffs' counsel about the
- 15 litigation, but not seeking legal advice. Do you have any of
- 16 those?
- MR. BRUCE: I have no --
- 18 THE COURT: Well, first of all, is that what you are
- 19 looking for?
- 20 MR. SAMORE: I am looking for a privilege log. I
- 21 don't know that it is overly burdensome. There may have been
- 22 three people. There may have been ten people. I don't know.
- 23 THE COURT: Can you answer the question, though? Is
- 24 that what -- I want to know what you are looking for.
- 25 MS. LONG: That's what we would like to be produced.

- 1 Those are the documents we would like produced. We would also
- 2 like a privilege log telling us that the other ones exist.
- 3 THE COURT: Again, so that's what you are looking
- 4 for?
- 5 MR. SAMORE: But ultimately, I mean, if there were,
- 6 for example, solicitations, that clearly would not be -- if
- 7 this was the Plaintiffs' firm --
- 8 THE COURT: See, that's why I ask these questions.
- 9 MR. SAMORE: Yes, right.
- 10 THE COURT: And I said I think they are looking for
- 11 something bigger. So that's why I asked you what are you
- 12 looking for.
- MS. LONG: Yes.
- 14 THE COURT: So now that's -- solicitations, that is a
- 15 whole -- what did you say, kettle of fish? That's a
- 16 whole -- that's not kettle of fish. That's like squid in a
- 17 different country.
- 18 All right. So any communications -- two things now
- 19 we know: One, communications from putative class members, so
- 20 somebody who purchased the machine, contacted you about the
- 21 litigation, but wasn't seeking legal advice. Do those even
- 22 exist?
- MR. BRUCE: I don't think so, No. 1, and, no, I'm not
- 24 going to get into -- I mean, I will talk to you about it, but
- 25 the context has been people are not happy with the machine and

- 1 they are seeking legal advice. That's it, Judge.
- 2 THE COURT: Okay.
- 3 MR. BRUCE: And I have never in 26 years filed a
- 4 privilege log for attorney-client communications, so I haven't
- 5 done that. Maybe that's something new.
- 6 What was the other thing? I haven't solicited. I
- 7 have never solicited.
- 8 THE COURT: Hold on a second.
- 9 So that's one. They don't have them. Your
- 10 representation is no one -- no putative class member has
- 11 contacted Plaintiffs' counsel about the litigation that wasn't
- 12 seeking legal advice. So there is your answer to that.
- 13 You are also asking about solicitations, so talk to
- 14 me about that.
- 15 MR. SAMORE: Well, I mean, I would like to hear from
- 16 the other counsel on this. Solicitation is clearly not
- 17 privileged.
- THE COURT: Can you play my game?
- 19 MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 20 THE COURT: So I'm asking you -- we have got one
- 21 issue that we have clarified what you are seeking. They don't
- 22 have them. You also mentioned solicitation. So now I'm
- 23 turning to you to ask you to flesh out for me, to give me
- 24 context, what you're looking for and why.
- 25 MR. SAMORE: Okay. We were looking for

- 1 communications between counsel and potential class members
- 2 with respect to whether they wanted to join the lawsuit, if
- 3 there was a solicitation. That would be -- that would be
- 4 potentially relevant.
- 5 But let me just cut right to it. I think, as I
- 6 understand the rule, they have the obligation to establish
- 7 attorney-client privilege. If he produces a privilege log,
- 8 this whole issue may be gone, and there may only be five.
- 9 THE COURT: The first step is what are you asking
- 10 for. And that's what I'm stuck on right now. And now I know.
- 11 Now I know what you are looking for --
- MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 13 THE COURT: -- is whether Plaintiffs' counsel
- 14 solicited, looked for, contacted other putative class members.
- 15 That's what -- and I want to know. I just want to make sure I
- 16 have got my head on this issue and I know what you are asking
- 17 for. That's what you are looking for, right?
- 18 MR. SAMORE: But in addition, if they were contacted
- 19 by a putative class member --
- 20 THE COURT: We already talked about that and resolved
- 21 that.
- MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- THE COURT: Okay. So, look, if you haven't figured
- 24 it out now, I'm very compartmentalized. I try to be simple.
- 25 Issue one, were they contacted, we resolved that. Now we are

- 1 talking about solicitation.
- 2 So was there any solicitations that were sent out?
- 3 MR. BRUCE: No.
- 4 THE COURT: Okay. And that resolves that. There are
- 5 no documents.
- 6 MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 7 THE COURT: So we don't even need a privilege log,
- 8 okay?
- 9 MR. BRUCE: Yes.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay.
- 11 MR. BRUCE: Right. I just want to be clear, Judge,
- 12 that there is absolutely people that have contacted me
- 13 regarding my legal advice that are putative class members. I
- 14 have represented that, and I'm representing that to you. And
- 15 if we get to the end of this hearing today, one of the things
- 16 I want to tell you just up front, an issue, is we are going to
- 17 be adding some more plaintiffs, to my point. It is not just
- 18 four people. There is many others. So we are going to be
- 19 adding some plaintiffs.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. BRUCE: Mr. Samore wants to push this case, so we
- 22 are going to give him more feed for --
- THE COURT: So let me pause you there.
- 24 Hypertechnically, everybody who has contacted,
- 25 including the named class members that filed a complaint, they

- 1 have contacted Plaintiffs' counsel, I'm sure there is
- 2 communications. There is probably an engagement agreement and
- 3 all kinds of stuff. You are not seeking that, are you?
- 4 Because if you sought that, then they would say, "Okay, give
- 5 me a privilege log of every time you e-mailed your general
- 6 counsel."
- 7 MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 8 THE COURT: And you don't want to do that, play that
- 9 game, right?
- 10 MS. LONG: No, I think that's why we said putative
- 11 class members as opposed to named plaintiffs.
- 12 THE COURT: Okay. So we are good on that. All
- 13 right. So no solicitations.
- 14 Go ahead.
- But you have made your representation. People have
- 16 contacted you. Again --
- MR. BRUCE: Some I have taken, some I haven't.
- 18 THE COURT: All for the purpose of legal advice?
- 19 MR. BRUCE: Yes, and about this litigation, and
- 20 that's privileged.
- 21 MR. SAMORE: Your Honor, just like, I mean, they want
- 22 no surprises with respect to their statements that their own
- 23 clients made at depositions, we don't want --
- THE COURT: Hold on one second.
- 25 (Brief pause.)

- 1 THE COURT: All right. So I interrupted you.
- 2 MR. SAMORE: So we don't want to be surprised. And,
- 3 also, I didn't hear Mr. Gravino indicate that there was no
- 4 solicitations on his end.
- 5 MR. GRAVINO: I can similarly represent that to the
- 6 court, your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: And you, counsel?
- 8 MR. HOLEVAS: No solicitations.
- 9 THE COURT: Okay. All right. And you said you
- 10 didn't want to be surprised. Anything else? I didn't want to
- 11 cut you off.
- MR. SAMORE: No, your Honor, that's it. Thank you.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. See, I had that as a difficult
- 14 issue, and we worked right through it.
- Okay. Talk to me about --
- MR. SAMORE: I --
- 17 THE COURT: Go ahead.
- MR. SAMORE: No, I'm sorry.
- 19 THE COURT: All right. Talk to me about -- let me
- 20 make sure I understand this correctly. It sounds as though
- 21 the Defendant is saying it does not know the price of the
- 22 product it sold to the putative class members. Is my
- 23 understanding correct?
- 24 MS. LONG: So we know the price paid by each person
- 25 who purchased it.

- 1 THE COURT: Okay.
- 2 MS. LONG: But in order to compare apples to apples,
- 3 there is math that needs to be done manually because sometimes
- 4 they purchased --
- 5 THE COURT: Let me pause you right there. They just
- 6 want to know the price, right?
- 7 MS. LONG: They want to know the price of the
- 8 PicoSure workstation, but if someone bought a PicoSure
- 9 workstation and another couple of lasers, and also some
- 10 optional upgrades and maybe this marketing package, that all
- 11 goes into the final price. So I could give you a price, but I
- 12 couldn't tell you that that price is for the PicoSure as
- 13 opposed to the PicoSure and a lot of other things.
- 14 THE COURT: So the invoice -- I assume there is
- 15 invoices, right?
- MS. LONG: Yes.
- MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 18 THE COURT: Okay. So the invoice will be X number of
- 19 dollars, but in the X number -- it will say total, X number of
- 20 dollars, but cooked into the X number of dollars are, could
- 21 be, the machine, plus that Doc Web Service deal, plus some
- 22 other things, maybe marketing and other things. That all gets
- 23 cooked into the X dollars, is that what you are telling me?
- MS. LONG: Uh-huh.
- MR. SAMORE: Yes.

- 1 THE COURT: Okay. And the price of the machine is
- 2 going to be different?
- 3 MS. LONG: I think it is sometimes -- I don't know if
- 4 you have ever purchased something, you know --
- 5 THE COURT: I've purchased a few things.
- 6 MS. LONG: -- and you get something at the store, and
- 7 you get a big discount, \$25 off if you buy \$50, but then you
- 8 try and return one thing, and it is not always clear what you
- 9 are going to get back because it went into this larger
- 10 calculation. I don't know. That has happened to me.
- 11 MR. SAMORE: And we could produce the invoices. This
- 12 is very confidential and proprietary information. They have a
- 13 competitor that may have helped fuel this, maybe a source of
- 14 some information for the Plaintiffs. So if we do produce the
- 15 invoices, we would ask that they be produced solely for
- 16 attorneys' eyes only. That may be a way of resolving it. And
- 17 it may include a bunch of --
- THE COURT: Theoretically, you could show them 450
- 19 invoices, right?
- MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 21 THE COURT: Right? And that's what I wrote down, 450
- 22 PicoSures sold.
- MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 24 THE COURT: Okay. So we know that there are 450
- 25 invoices, documents, hard documents, that will have the price

- 1 paid, maybe some other things cooked into them or not cooked
- 2 into them, but the price for that machine will be included in
- 3 that document, right?
- 4 MS. LONG: The price for that transaction.
- 5 THE COURT: Well, that's why I just did the whole
- 6 analysis with you. The X dollars is the price for the whole
- 7 transaction.
- 8 MS. LONG: Uh-huh.
- 9 THE COURT: In there, again, having purchased
- 10 products many times, there will be on one column the things
- 11 you purchased, and at the bottom, it will say the total. So
- 12 are you just telling me there is a total and not a separate
- 13 demarcation for the services, the web service and the machine?
- 14 MS. LONG: I actually haven't seen an invoice, your
- 15 Honor, so I can't answer that, but I think that we could
- 16 produce the invoice attorneys' eyes only and let Plaintiffs
- 17 know that that's what we have.
- 18 THE COURT: And that will get you the information you
- 19 want regarding the price, right?
- MR. BRUCE: Yes, your Honor.
- 21 THE COURT: All right. That seems reasonable. All
- 22 right.
- MR. BRUCE: Yes.
- 24 THE COURT: Okay. Do we have a protective order in
- 25 this case?

- 1 MR. GRAVINO: We do.
- 2 MS. LONG: I'm not sure that it has an attorneys'
- 3 eyes only designation within it. I think there is a
- 4 confidential designation, but I'm not sure that it is that
- 5 restricted.
- 6 THE COURT: Let me do this: I don't like attorneys'
- 7 eyes only because it makes it hard for either side to litigate
- 8 your case. I will include it, but they need to be able to
- 9 talk to some client about it so they can litigate their case.
- 10 It is hard to -- attorneys can't get information in a vacuum
- 11 and then go, "Oh, great, I know this," and not talk to the
- 12 client and figure out how it works. So I am open to limiting
- 13 the review to attorneys and then maybe a subset.
- MR. BRUCE: Judge, this is getting -- respectfully, I
- 15 would like to comment on this.
- 16 THE COURT: Go ahead.
- 17 MR. BRUCE: They don't want to give us in this simple
- 18 case the most basic stuff. I want the contracts between each
- 19 of those 450 people. It is asked for over and over. I want
- 20 the contract that they had. It is a two-page whatever. I
- 21 want the contract, and I also want the invoice. These are not
- 22 complicated issues, right? They won't give me the most basic
- 23 things.
- Now, after fleshing out what I think was an obvious
- 25 fact for like ten minutes and wasting everybody's time, "Yes,

- 1 we have an invoice that shows what they paid for," I don't
- 2 want to now get carried down a rabbit hole which is "Oh, it is
- 3 attorneys' eyes only." They want to do anything -- they want
- 4 to obfuscate this issue.
- 5 Judge, I have told you in this court and I have said
- 6 in briefs what we are claiming in this case. I have cited to
- 7 you over and over the specific UCC provision, and there is a
- 8 definition in the UCC that talks about how to calculate
- 9 damages. And I'm paraphrasing, so I'm not making
- 10 representations. I don't have it in front of me. But,
- 11 ostensibly, it is the price, the value of what you paid for it
- 12 versus what the defective product is as sold on the open
- 13 market, what it is as defective.
- 14 So if you said the car is worth -- it goes 60 miles
- 15 an hour, and it goes 5 miles an hour, the price is what was
- 16 the cost of the car that goes 60 miles an hour, let's say it
- 17 is ten bucks, and when you sell it after everybody knows it is
- 18 defective, what is the value of the car that goes 10 miles. I
- 19 mean, it is not more complicated than that, right?
- 20 So I think -- I can't imagine a situation where I'm
- 21 going to get through them, the invoices, what they sold. It's
- 22 just this 450 people. It is not 10,000. It is a class
- 23 action. It is not 10,000. It is not 5,000. It is 450
- 24 people. I'm going to take that list, and I'm going to give it
- 25 to my economist and the people that are involved, and if it

- 1 says "attorneys' eyes only," I don't want to have to come back
- 2 in here, to court.
- 3 THE COURT: And I would allow you -- like I said, you
- 4 have to be allowed to share with somebody, but let me pause
- 5 you right there.
- Is there something on the invoice that says it is
- 7 privileged? Because it is --
- 8 MR. GRAVINO: Judge --
- 9 THE COURT: Hold on.
- 10 Because if it is just an invoice that Cynosure gives
- 11 to its customers, I'm not sure how that is proprietary,
- 12 confidential, or falls under trademark or copyright or any
- 13 other kind of privilege that would exist.
- 14 MR. SAMORE: I think the pricing information is
- 15 proprietary information. And under the case law, I think the
- 16 way a product is priced is proprietary.
- 17 THE COURT: The under -- I agree with you that the
- 18 underlying way that you determine a price of a product is
- 19 absolutely confidential. I mean, that's how you figure out
- 20 your profit margins, right?
- MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 22 THE COURT: But the ultimate price itself, especially
- 23 if it is on a document that you give to a third party, how is
- 24 that --
- 25 MS. LONG: I think it is the aggregation.

- 1 THE COURT: What do you mean aggregation?
- 2 MS. LONG: Concerning what one person paid for it
- 3 versus what everyone has paid for the PicoSure. There is a
- 4 lot of information that becomes available in the synthesis of
- 5 the aggregate of information when you know what each and every
- 6 person paid, which one person getting one invoice doesn't have
- 7 the context of all of the rest.
- 8 MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 9 THE COURT: I mean, it is going to have a price for
- 10 the product, right?
- 11 MS. LONG: I think it doesn't have a sticker price
- 12 the way that you are thinking, you know, the way that one
- 13 thinks of a receipt that pops up with a sticker price of a
- 14 product, I think. So it doesn't have that.
- 15 THE COURT: So some got deals and some didn't get
- 16 deals. Is that right, that some people got a better deal than
- 17 others, maybe because they bought the web service thing?
- 18 MR. SAMORE: Over time, the price changed.
- 19 THE COURT: That's a different issue, but I don't see
- 20 how that would be confidential.
- 21 MR. SAMORE: Right.
- 22 THE COURT: I mean, gas prices change every hour.
- MR. SAMORE: Right.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- 25 MR. GRAVINO: Judge, if I could, very briefly on

- 1 that, as you noted, the contract and the invoice that they
- 2 actually give to the buyers has the price right on it. When
- 3 our client contacted us, Hartsough Dermatology, some time ago
- 4 and said, you know, "We want you to look into this," they gave
- 5 us the contract with the price on it, and it doesn't have any
- 6 attorneys' eyes only. Under the protective order, they have
- 7 to have a good faith basis to designate something as
- 8 attorneys' eyes only, and I don't want to be unhelpful --
- 9 THE COURT: Well, they are telling me there is no
- 10 attorneys' eyes only provision at all.
- MR. GRAVINO: I thought it had a two step, but under
- 12 any protective order, there has to be a good faith basis to do
- 13 that, Judge, and since it is on the contract that they already
- 14 gave to our client and others, without putting confidential
- 15 attorneys' eyes only, I'm having a hard time understanding why
- 16 we should be -- it is really going to make this a headache,
- 17 especially when we sit down at the next phase and try to
- 18 calculate, as Devon said, the purchase price -- or the fair
- 19 market value. We need to know the starting point of the
- 20 selling price.
- 21 THE COURT: It is not going to be that difficult
- 22 because I will certainly allow your -- even if there were
- 23 attorneys' eyes only, I would certainly allow any experts to
- 24 view it so you can come up with a number.
- 25 Hold on. I will answer a question here.

- 1 Confidential, confidential.
- 2 MR. GRAVINO: Judge, I would anticipate that we would
- 3 move to lift that at some point. We wouldn't be able to put
- 4 our case on without that information.
- 5 THE COURT: All right. Hold on.
- 6 Confidential, subject to a protective order.
- 7 I am not seeing an attorneys' eyes only in the
- 8 confidentiality order, just a general protective order. No
- 9 attorneys' eyes only.
- 10 Produce them subject to the confidentiality order,
- 11 and if it becomes an issue, I will let you know. All right.
- 12 So stamp them as confidential. I am highly suspect that they
- 13 are. But at some point -- so you will be allowed to share
- 14 with all the people that are listed, including experts and all
- 15 that, but you can't post them on the Internet.
- MR. SAMORE: Can't post them.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. If at some point we need to
- 18 address it, we will address it, but you will get them.
- 19 MR. GRAVINO: Thank you, Judge.
- MR. BRUCE: Thank you.
- 21 THE COURT: So that's the 450 invoices.
- 22 Counsel, parties, contractors, consultants, experts,
- 23 witnesses at depositions, you are fine for now. It won't hold
- 24 things up. Okay.
- 25 MR. BRUCE: Mr. Holevas is making the point that

- 1 maybe I'm going to say something at my peril because you have
- 2 got an organized way to go through this. Mr. Holevas is
- 3 asking "Did he mean to include those contracts of each of the
- 4 450?" Because like the contracts that we have actually have
- 5 the price. I think it is even filed in court.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay.
- 7 MR. BRUCE: You know what I'm saying, Judge? You
- 8 know, like when they filled out the form contracts, I think
- 9 the pricing -- I could be mistaken -- I think it is in there.
- 10 It doesn't matter whether it is in there or not. We wanted
- 11 the contracts for each of these 450 people.
- MS. LONG: We produced all of the -- we produced
- 13 exemplars of every contract that we have ever used.
- 14 THE COURT: Well, there is 450, contracts, right? I
- 15 can't imagine a business's file management system where
- 16 pulling up contracts would be difficult.
- 17 MR. SAMORE: Yes, but it is 450 times. I mean, that
- 18 is a lot of -- I mean, for each one, it takes time. That's
- 19 all.
- THE COURT: It is a two-page contract, right?
- MR. SAMORE: Yes, I believe.
- THE COURT: So it is 900 pages?
- MS. LONG: I think they are not stored together.
- 24 THE COURT: How are contracts kept at this major
- 25 national business?

- 1 MS. LONG: Yes, so I think that we have our -- my
- 2 understanding, and, again, I will caveat this a little bit,
- 3 but we have produced to them all contracts that we have used
- 4 to sell the PicoSure without client-identifying information.
- 5 Every iteration of the contract that we have used has been
- 6 produced, and those are centrally stored, so I believe that
- 7 those were kind of pulled and tada. But each individual
- 8 contract that is filled in with the client name lives in the
- 9 client file.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay.
- MS. LONG: Which for many of them, and probably most
- 12 of them, lives online, but for older sales, lives in hard copy
- documents, which would require going to hard copy documents
- 14 if you are looking for the contract that has been filled in
- 15 and retrieving them from that file.
- THE COURT: How many years back are we going here?
- 17 MR. BRUCE: It is not that long, Judge.
- 18 THE COURT: Like 2011? Were they doing hard copies
- 19 in 2011?
- MS. LONG: The client has told me that some previous
- 21 sales have files that only are in hard copy.
- MR. GRAVINO: Judge, I think the FDA approval was
- 23 like 2012-ish. So they have only been out since 2012 or 2013.
- 24 They weren't allowed to sell the first unit until they got the
- 25 FDA approval. So this doesn't go back to the dark ages.

- 1 MS. LONG: Let me say that there is a chance that I'm
- 2 thinking of the Revlite product, which they have also asked
- 3 for, potentially, a calculation of everything with the
- 4 Revlite. I guess I can't say a hundred percent that the hard
- 5 copy files are PicoSure or Revlite.
- 6 THE COURT: The contracts need to be produced unless
- 7 there is some affidavit, specific information that explains to
- 8 me how a company of this size and this sophistication can't
- 9 produce 450 contracts.
- 10 MS. LONG: Okay. It is just going to take a little
- 11 bit of time.
- 12 THE COURT: I mean, how long? This is kind of stuff
- 13 that, quite honestly, I'm surprised wasn't identified in a
- 14 26(a)(1) disclosure, right? Isn't that -- they have been
- 15 grumbling about it from day one.
- MR. SAMORE: You know, your Honor, actually, the
- 17 theory behind --
- 18 THE COURT: Go ahead.
- 19 MR. SAMORE: It is just -- I mean, some people will
- 20 say, look, they want to take depositions of every class
- 21 member. I mean, to produce this granular information for
- 22 every class member is burdensome, and it is very -- it is
- 23 unusual at this point in the litigation, before the court has
- 24 ever said this can ever be certified, before it can ever be.
- 25 So I think that the better practice, I mean, would be to wait

- 1 until after --
- 2 THE COURT: I'm asking how it is burdensome, and I'm
- 3 going off of my life experiences, plus my experience as an
- 4 attorney. I did a lot of commercial litigation, including UCC
- 5 work, and I can't imagine in that context and with where I'm
- 6 coming from as this being difficult to produce 450 contracts
- 7 that are two pages each.
- 8 MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 9 THE COURT: If for some reason, some bizarre reason,
- 10 your client does things, and they put their contracts pursuant
- 11 to astrological signs, okay, we will see, and then maybe
- 12 boohoo on them for keeping bad business record management.
- But, you know, absent hearing some reason why
- 14 producing 450 contracts, 900 pages, which in the scope of
- 15 large commercial cases is a flyspeck, right, than what we are
- 16 used to these days, those will be produced.
- 17 MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 18 THE COURT: All right. We are going to come back to
- 19 that.
- 20 All right. So there was attorney-client. That was
- 21 the invoice issue.
- Okay. Talk to me about this reasonable investigation
- 23 that was done to gather documents and things like that. And,
- 24 look, I get it. It is asymmetrical. That's the unfortunate
- 25 life of most defendants in litigation. Then there is burden,

- 1 and that's why the rules talk about proportionality. So tell
- 2 me what was done.
- 3 MS. LONG: So we, initially, went over the requests
- 4 with a representative from the legal department, who kind of
- 5 digested them and thought about which department would be most
- 6 likely to have responsive communication and engaged those
- 7 departments. You know, they include quite a few, which I
- 8 think we went over in the class 4 declaration. So we have got
- 9 clinical, regulatory, marketing, sales reporting, IT, service,
- 10 finance, and legal, and those departments were sent their
- 11 requests where they might have responsive documents, and then
- 12 there was a specific document pull when there was the thought
- 13 of specific documents.
- 14 When it comes to e-mail searches, that's where it
- 15 gets particularly burdensome, and so here's what we didn't do
- 16 in response to the request for every -- basically, there are a
- 17 couple of requests, but they amount to every e-mail
- 18 communication with every putative class member, and that gets
- 19 complicated because Cynosure has about 150, 200 sales staff,
- 20 and those are the people who are most likely to have
- 21 communications with clients, although, again, the relationship
- 22 with the client and the company is ongoing beyond the sale.
- 23 It is not, sort of, you buy a laser and walk away. The
- 24 clients or customers continually reach out with questions
- 25 about service or training or clinical questions. So there are

- 1 a lot of those communications, even just among the sales
- 2 staff. They talk to between one and five people depending on
- 3 the region because there are regional managers and territory
- 4 managers and things like that.
- 5 So for each -- that's what we did for each of the
- 6 named plaintiffs. We basically pulled their files and
- 7 determined which one to five people in this sales hierarchy to
- 8 search, and then we put together search terms for the
- 9 Plaintiffs. This is a particularly difficult context for that
- 10 because, let's say, we sell a laser to ABC Clinic. ABC Clinic
- 11 has, you know, Doctors A and B who work there. Maybe they
- 12 have Admin C who does a lot of their e-mailing. So figuring
- 13 out the search terms for the names of people who represent
- 14 that purchaser is sort of another added layer.
- 15 And then we ran the searches in the relevant team
- 16 members' texts and e-mail. That has to be privilege reviewed
- 17 because there is not a way to search it just in the to/from
- 18 fields to narrow only communications that came to or from a
- 19 third party because you have to be searching by the name,
- 20 because I don't know if ABC Clinic's e-mail address is, you
- 21 know, Dermatology XYZ at Gmail or Yahoo. I can't search the
- 22 to/from field. I have to search content. So those might pull
- 23 back e-mails that are between counsel or that have to do with
- 24 the litigation.
- 25 We can't search PicoSure because PicoSure comes up in

- 1 the signature box or the signature line of the salespeople
- 2 because they sell the PicoSure. So if we just searched for
- 3 PicoSure, it comes back with all of the salespeople.
- 4 THE COURT: But you can do a search -- I mean, how
- 5 many attorneys are we talking about? You can just do a simple
- 6 search of that subset and find Ms. Long, Mr. Samore, all
- 7 those, right? You will find those. That's an easy cull out.
- 8 MS. LONG: And people that -- you know, and we would
- 9 have to include the paralegals and people who are asking the
- 10 departments, because if the attorney asks the paralegals, who
- 11 ask --
- 12 THE COURT: How many would those be?
- MS. LONG: Personally, in my practice, I like to
- 14 review pretty closely for privilege because if a paralegal
- 15 asks nonlegal person A, and nonlegal person A asks nonlegal
- 16 person B "I need this for Jean," which is the name of a
- 17 paralegal, that follows privilege because it is work product,
- 18 because it is, you know, work product. It is at the request
- 19 of a lawyer. So I'm not sure that we can just pull out
- 20 attorney names. We have documents. You know, privilege
- 21 exists in context.
- 22 THE COURT: Right. But they only exist -- privilege
- 23 is only going to exist if there is somebody seeking legal
- 24 advice and there is a lawyer in the mix, right? So a
- 25 paralegal could do it, the advice. So that's why I'm asking

- 1 sort of basic, simple questions, is how many -- you have got
- 2 things going forward from the case. It's probably not going
- 3 to be caught up in this thing, right, because they are not
- 4 really looking for that. But throw your names into the mix,
- 5 and you can cull those out pretty quickly.
- In-house counsel, how many members are in in-house
- 7 counsel?
- 8 MR. SAMORE: There are three.
- 9 THE COURT: Okay.
- 10 MR. SAMORE: In addition, at least --
- 11 THE COURT: How many paralegals? So we have got
- 12 three more to cull out.
- MR. SAMORE: Yes, but --
- 14 THE COURT: Answer my question. How many paralegals?
- 15 MR. SAMORE: I think there is --
- MS. LONG: I know of at least one.
- 17 MR. SAMORE: There is one.
- 18 THE COURT: So four people you have to cull out.
- 19 MR. SAMORE: Okay. Your Honor, we have a system for
- 20 maintaining in a centralized area every complaint that has
- 21 been made, and that has been produced. People are trained to
- 22 do that. They have to do it. So what's the relevancy of all
- 23 of the -- there could be thousands. There could be tens of
- thousands of communications between these people about, you
- 25 know, their training, their service, their certification, all

- 1 things that have nothing to do with the case. We aren't even
- 2 at -- we don't even have a case that is certified that would
- 3 be the subject of a ruling by the court, and it is not
- 4 proportional to the needs of the case.
- 5 THE COURT: We don't know that yet because I keep
- 6 asking these really simple questions about how many are we
- 7 talking about. You can cull them out.
- 8 MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 9 THE COURT: We have a 502 order that gives you the
- 10 clawback provision that protects you.
- MS. LONG: Yes, well, that's just on the privilege
- 12 issue. So even if we put that aside, coming up, pulling each
- 13 file to figure out who purchased the laser and who the
- 14 relevant names to search for with regard to that purchase
- 15 would require pulling each 450 sales files, because even if
- 16 the invoice has a client name, I mean, they have had -- one of
- 17 their clients has a d/b/a. There is -- I'm sorry, I'm
- 18 blanking on the initials, but Hartsough, they have a d/b/a for
- 19 the company, and there is at least one doctor who works there.
- 20 So putting up a search term for coming up with the names of
- 21 what to search for each of the 450 purchasers is a very
- 22 individualized process.
- 23 THE COURT: How about using -- go ahead.
- 24 MR. BRUCE: Judge, I have a couple observations. You
- 25 asked a simple question of them. We are way into this in

- 1 written discovery in terms of time and when I asked for basic
- 2 stuff, right, complaints about this product. You just asked
- 3 them a very simple question, "What reasonable inquiry did you
- 4 do on the e-mails?" That's what you asked. And there was
- 5 this big, long dissertation by counsel, who has been very
- 6 candid with this court and said "I just have been on this case
- 7 a month," about all the different departments at Cynosure and
- 8 all the different things they have to do.
- 9 First of all, I think what we are hearing is they
- 10 have done nothing --
- MS. LONG: No.
- 12 MR. BRUCE: -- on searching for the e-mails.
- 13 Mr. Samore keeps coming back, "Well, we have to do this for
- 14 the updating. We will give it to them, whatever they want."
- I want to know -- I want to know -- and I have asked
- 16 five ways from Sunday in different interrogatories and
- 17 requests to produce, people who have made complaints about
- 18 this product, the PicoSure product. I have asked for that,
- 19 and I have yet -- and even if they start coming back now and
- 20 saying, "This is what," there is nothing in front of you.
- 21 They have not signed -- they have not filed what they were
- 22 supposed to file months and months ago. When they make these
- 23 boilerplate objections about unduly and burdensome, they are
- 24 supposed to give the person. "Here is the person that made
- 25 the e-mail search. Here are the terms that we used. We got

- 1 20,000 hits. It is way too hard for us." I mean, what I am
- 2 hearing is, A, they haven't done it, and then, B, even if they
- 3 have done it, they don't have anybody that's in front of you.
- 4 This is fluff from the lawyers, one of who just started a
- 5 month ago in this case, okay? So I'm a little bit bothered.
- But what she did say was very interesting. I have
- 7 asked also -- and I know you are going through, but this is a
- 8 related matter. I have asked for two different things. I
- 9 asked for our client's file; essentially, the file. So they
- 10 sold the thing. It is like if I go and buy a Ford Escort, you
- 11 know, at this place here in Rockford, over there on
- 12 Perryville, if I buy that, there is going to be an invoice,
- 13 there is going to be a contract, there is going to be
- 14 communications. There is going to be a file somewhere,
- 15 whether it is electronic, written, or both. They are going to
- 16 have a file on the purchase of the Ford Escort, right.
- I have asked for the files of the purchase for my
- 18 named plaintiffs, everything in the file. I have asked for
- 19 the file. I think that's fair. I have asked for it because
- 20 this is a class action, and they are saying it is all
- 21 different, and there is no way they are common. Well, let me
- 22 test that, and this is done commonly in class actions. I
- 23 asked for the file. It is not 5,000. It is not 10,000. It
- 24 is not 500. Now, I'm learning today it is 450. I want the
- 25 files.

- 1 And she said something over and over. She said, "We
- 2 pulled the file. We pulled the file." I want the file for
- 3 the people that bought the PicoSure machine. I want the file.
- 4 This is not -- I mean, we are beating a dead horse here,
- 5 Judge. I mean, they haven't done what they are supposed to do
- 6 in terms of providing you with evidence why it is unduly
- 7 burdensome. It doesn't sound like they have done e-mail
- 8 searches, and lawyer's representations that just started on
- 9 the case doesn't cut it, respectfully, with all due represent.
- 10 So that's it. Thank you.
- 11 Mr. Gravino?
- 12 MR. GRAVINO: Judge, very briefly, as you know from
- 13 commercial litigation -- I do primarily commercial litigation,
- 14 a lot of copyright and IT litigation -- we routinely do these
- 15 things with forensic companies. They are talking about
- 16 thousands and thousands of lawyers' hours. It is headachy.
- 17 It does take time. It does take some cost. But given the
- 18 nature of this case, I don't think it is unduly burdensome at
- 19 all. You hire a forensic person. They come in.
- I mean, they want to throw around odd numbers, 150,
- 21 200 salespeople. How many servers are these on, I haven't
- 22 heard them represent to the court. If this stuff is on one or
- 23 two or three or four servers, you have a forensic company like
- 24 Forensicon in Chicago come in. They make a forensic image of
- 25 each server. They take it back. They work out the protocol.

- 1 I don't need to bore you with the details, Judge. I know you
- 2 are more than familiar with this. Also, the courts are using
- 3 these Sedona Principles now for culling and sifting. It is
- 4 done.
- 5 So they want to throw around numbers about the number
- 6 of personnel, but in this day and age, all the good stuff is
- 7 on e-mails. Everybody knows that. People don't write letters
- 8 anymore by hand. The real documents are in electronic or in
- 9 e-mail form. It is very routinized to get this stuff with the
- 10 forensic image. We do it all the time. Everybody I work with
- 11 does it all the time. It is not fun, but it is certainly not
- 12 unduly burdensome given the stakes of the case. I haven't
- 13 heard anything from them about consulting with a forensic
- 14 person the number of servers, the cost of this, those kinds of
- 15 things.
- MS. LONG: I will say that apart from
- 17 burdensome -- they come back to sort of lack of facts on
- 18 burdensome -- I want to make clear that our main argument is
- 19 proportionality and the needs of the case, which doesn't need
- 20 facts to support it.
- 21 Going back to the complaint log, I want to make clear
- 22 to opposing counsel and to the court what the complaint log
- 23 is. It is not something that we put some of the complaints.
- 24 Any complaint that comes in to the company from any source,
- 25 any e-mail, any random conversation with a maintenance

- 1 technician or a salesperson, any complaint that comes in is
- 2 logged on here. So if we were to go and do an e-mail search
- 3 that would uncover complaints, it would be duplicative of the
- 4 complaints that are already logged in the complaint log. We
- 5 keep this. As a regulated industry, we are subject to FDA
- 6 audit. So it is a practice to include all of the complaints
- 7 on that complaint log. It would be redundant to search.
- 8 THE COURT: But does it include all the
- 9 communications regarding each complaint? That's what they are
- 10 looking for. Now, whether it is unduly burdensome and
- 11 proportional is a different question. What they are looking
- 12 for, and they can correct me if I'm wrong, is, okay, you have
- 13 given them a complaint log. Good, that may be an excellent
- 14 starting point.
- MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 16 THE COURT: And I haven't seen it, and I don't know
- 17 what it looks like, but that can say complaint from this
- 18 customer about this machine, and there is a serial number.
- 19 But I don't know if caught in that log is a sales rep talking
- 20 to an engineer saying, "Oh, crap, it happened again. It
- 21 didn't do what it was supposed to do. This is the third time
- 22 it has happened. What is going on with you knuckleheads? I'm
- 23 having trouble selling the machine. They are telling me it is
- 24 not working right." That's what they want to see. Whether it
- 25 exists, I don't know.

- 1 Would something like that be caught up in that
- 2 complaint log? Because what I have just described is clearly
- 3 relevant.
- 4 MR. SAMORE: Right.
- 5 THE COURT: It is not privileged, so now we are into
- 6 the other issue.
- 7 MR. SAMORE: I think if we were to limit -- if we
- 8 were to go to the complaint log, and then do a search of the
- 9 people in that complaint log for the types of communications
- 10 that you are talking about, I think that would be something
- 11 that would be proportional and that would make sense.
- MR. BRUCE: Judge, the complaint --
- 13 MR. SAMORE: And just one other thing.
- MR. BRUCE: Sure.
- 15 MR. SAMORE: And that is that he talks a lot about
- 16 the e-discovery. I have been involved in a lot of cases,
- 17 cases where plaintiffs' attorneys and defense attorneys have
- 18 search terms and they discuss about a protocol.
- 19 THE COURT: I assume you guys did that.
- MR. BRUCE: No, they won't give me anything.
- 21 MR. SAMORE: There has been nothing, nothing from the
- 22 Plaintiffs.
- 23 THE COURT: Well, since I am the co-chair of the
- 24 Seventh Circuit Electronic Discovery Pilot Program, I have a
- 25 little bit of background in this, and I push the program all

- 1 the time. You can go on any -- it will be on every district
- 2 court judge in the Northern District of Illinois. It will be
- 3 on every website in the Seventh Circuit, because I made them
- 4 do it, or you can just go to discoverypilot.com, and we have
- 5 got protocols on there. We have got it all laid out. So all
- 6 that hard work is done. And I'm pretty confident if it comes
- 7 off of the Seventh Circuit program that I am the co-chair of,
- 8 I'm going to sign it. I'm going to think it is good work.
- 9 So that should happen, because if you are just coming
- 10 up with search terms on your own, of course he is going to
- 11 balk, just like if he were to dump 5,000 search terms on you.
- 12 You would go, "I'm not doing all these. This is going to
- 13 be -- I'm going to catch dups on this. This isn't relevant.
- 14 We have got to shorten this. There is other terms."
- That process has to occur, and that's part
- 16 of -- that's cooked into is it disproportionate, because if
- 17 you go through that process, you have a couple of options
- 18 here. One, it is massively voluminous and hugely costly,
- 19 probably not a good thing, or if what you catch is a little,
- 20 tiny guppy, and you spend a lot of money, well, that's
- 21 disproportionate for both sides, right?
- 22 But they are being about as clear as can be on what
- 23 they are looking for. So they would be relevant. They are
- 24 not privileged. I need to figure out if it is proportionate,
- 25 and I don't have that information now because what should have

- 1 occurred didn't occur, and I don't know what IT people have
- 2 been involved. I don't know what the systems look like. I
- 3 don't know how many servers there are. I don't know if you
- 4 can simply use a technology-assisted review, TAR, program.
- 5 That will save you buckets of attorney hours. There is ways
- 6 to reduce the cost on this, which then makes it proportional.
- 7 So that takes the burden off of you and your client. There is
- 8 ways to solve this, but we have got to start down that road,
- 9 right?
- MR. BRUCE: Great. Thanks, Judge. How do we start?
- 11 THE COURT: Take a look at the Seventh Circuit
- 12 Electronic Discovery Pilot Program website. Look at some of
- 13 the protocols on there. Talk about the ways you want to do
- 14 it, whether you want to do search terms. If you want to do
- 15 search terms. Talk about what search terms make some sense.
- 16 You know, it is more of an art than a science because you are
- 17 going to have to come up with a number that isn't too many and
- 18 not too few. If you go with technology-assisted review, you
- 19 don't even need your search terms, pretty much. So figure out
- 20 which way you want to do it.
- MR. BRUCE: Thank you, Judge, because we don't want
- 22 to get -- you know, they keep trying to hang their hat on this
- 23 complaint thing. I have zero confidence in that, and I have a
- 24 high degree of confidence that there are people that are not
- 25 happy with this PicoSure machine that appear nowhere on this

- 1 razor-thin complaint thing. So I am not -- and Mr. Samore
- 2 cannot offload his responsibilities under the rules of this
- 3 court by simply saying, "Well, we have this complaint log and
- 4 everything is in there." I'm not confident. So I just want
- 5 to be clear I'm not looking for just what they are saying is
- 6 in the complaint log.
- 7 THE COURT: Well, that's why I was questioning,
- 8 because it sounds like information, relevant information. It
- 9 may not be captured by the complaint log. So it is relevant,
- 10 non-privileged. And whether it is proportional, we will find
- 11 out.
- MR. BRUCE: Right. Thanks, Judge.
- MR. SAMORE: Your Honor, I mean, honestly, this case
- 14 has been pending for a long time, since 2000 --
- THE COURT: Do you want to settle?
- MR. SAMORE: Well, they are looking for a large,
- 17 multimillion dollar, class-wide settlement. I have offered
- 18 many times from day one to settle on an individual basis.
- 19 They have no interest with his looking for the gold and the
- 20 diamonds in the sky. This is a product that we believe in and
- 21 that has been verified, independent, you know, 90 -- it has
- 22 got an incredibly high approval rating by customers, and the
- 23 only complaints we saw were not complaints. They praised --
- 24 their clients praised the PicoSure after they used it for
- 25 months, to the newspaper.

- 1 THE COURT: How would those get in the complaint log?
- 2 MR. SAMORE: What is that?
- 3 THE COURT: How would those get in the complaint log?
- 4 MR. SAMORE: My point is there is likely not going to
- 5 be what he is looking for. We are going to go through a lot
- 6 of effort, and we are not going to get anywhere. It is going
- 7 to cost a lot of money.
- 8 THE COURT: Welcome to litigation.
- 9 MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 10 THE COURT: How many complaints are logged in this
- 11 complaint log, just number wise?
- MS. LONG: I'm sorry, I don't know off the top of my
- 13 head.
- 14 MR. BRUCE: It is thin, Judge. I don't know.
- 15 MR. SAMORE: It is a good --
- 16 THE COURT: More than ten?
- 17 MR. BRUCE: Yes.
- MS. LONG: Yes.
- THE COURT: All right. More than 50?
- MR. BRUCE: I don't know.
- 21 MR. SAMORE: Yes, but most of them really don't even
- 22 deal with the issue that they are referring to, which is the
- 23 basis of their complaint, but -- I mean, we can have a
- 24 conversation, if your Honor would like us to, but I think it
- 25 is very --

- 1 THE COURT: Look, I don't force settlement
- 2 conferences on people. If you want to have one, you tell me.
- 3 MR. SAMORE: We are happy, as we said from day one,
- 4 to settle individually. We don't believe this case --
- 5 THE COURT: And I have said it with a total straight
- 6 face: There should be more trials. There really should be.
- 7 Don't tell Judge Kapala I said that. There really should be.
- 8 How are you going to determine the value of things if nothing
- 9 goes to trial?
- 10 MR. SAMORE: Yes, right.
- 11 THE COURT: Judges sit in chambers and work on
- 12 summary judgment motions, and it makes it look very -- it is
- 13 not an open, transparent process. If you get seven people in
- 14 a jury box listening to the testimony, they are involved in
- 15 the system. They have skin in the game. They understand the
- 16 system. So there should be more trials.
- Okay. So those are the -- we covered the things I
- 18 wanted to talk about.
- 19 Let me start with Mr. Samore and Ms. Long.
- MR. SAMORE: Okay. Yes, your Honor.
- 21 THE COURT: What issues do you want to raise that I
- 22 haven't addressed?
- MR. SAMORE: Okay. Well, we would like to address
- 24 our motions to compel.
- 25 THE COURT: Okay. I think I have addressed some of

- 1 it, but, okay, hold on.
- Okay. Give me a production request or an
- 3 interrogatory number.
- 4 MR. SAMORE: Okay. Interrogatory No. 14 and 15.
- 5 THE COURT: Interrogatory No. 14 and 15, which is
- 6 also related Document Request No. 25.
- 7 MR. SAMORE: Yes, sir.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.
- 9 MR. SAMORE: Okay. All right. Your Honor
- 10 previously, as you may recall, required compliance with these
- 11 interrogatories in this production request in August. They
- 12 asked for customer responses, complaints about the product, or
- 13 any customers that declined to use the product.
- 14 THE COURT: Now, when we say "customers," we are not
- 15 talking the people getting zapped. We are talking about the
- 16 purchasers of the product?
- MR. SAMORE: No, we are talking about the people
- 18 getting zapped, the patients.
- 19 THE COURT: Okay.
- 20 MR. SAMORE: And your Honor specifically overruled
- 21 their motion for a protective order and required compliance,
- 22 and instead of complying, they objected on grounds of HIPAA.
- 23 They refused to identify any customers that they had who had
- 24 been zapped, who complained or declined to use service, and
- 25 they did so on the basis of HIPAA, which was specifically

- 1 addressed by an order that your Honor entered, that was
- 2 entered on September 22, 2016. And in Paragraph 3, your Honor
- 3 ruled that "All covered entities as defined by 45 CFR
- 4 Section 160.103 are hereby authorized to disclose protected
- 5 health information pertaining to the treatment of any
- 6 individual treated by any Plaintiff to attorneys representing
- 7 the Plaintiffs and Defendant in the above-captioned
- 8 litigation."
- 9 THE COURT: All right. Let me pause you there. I
- 10 thought the Plaintiffs' objection -- or not objection, but
- 11 response was that the complaints, general term "complaints,"
- 12 were verbal.
- MR. BRUCE: Yes, that's right, Judge.
- 14 THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. SAMORE: No, no, they have not identified the
- 16 customers that made the verbal objections.
- 17 THE COURT: Well, they can't produce documents if
- 18 they are verbal, right?
- 19 MR. SAMORE: This is an interrogatory.
- 20 THE COURT: Well, that's why I said it relates to
- 21 Document Request No. 25, which you said yes, and it is
- 22 "Produce each and every record documenting a patient complaint
- 23 or compliment regarding your treatment of that patient using
- 24 the PicoSure product." So they are saying they are verbal,
- 25 and if they are verbal, there is not going to be a document,

- 1 unless somebody said, "Hey, Sally Smith said the product is
- 2 awesome."
- 3 MR. SAMORE: But that's actually -- I don't
- 4 read -- their response was they all, essentially, just
- 5 referred to all of the medical treatment records. They refer
- 6 to hundreds or thousands of pages of treatment records. They
- 7 don't say "none." If they would simply say they have no
- 8 written records of any complaints by any of their patients or
- 9 any records of any patient declining -- if we have that
- 10 clearly stated on the record, that would dispense with
- 11 Production Request No. 25.
- 12 THE COURT: Okay. Any documents?
- MR. BRUCE: None that have not already been produced,
- 14 Judge.
- MR. SAMORE: But that -- again, what they have done
- 16 is they have produced thousands of records, which we have
- 17 looked and we can't find any customer complaints about the
- 18 efficacy. We want them to identify. They know their patients
- 19 better than we do. They were the ones that completed the
- 20 records. They should be required to identify which records,
- 21 instead of "Here is 5,000 records. You go look, because we
- 22 can't find any."
- 23 THE COURT: Okay. Look, did the interrogatory
- 24 response say they have been produced, and under Rule 33(d),
- 25 take a look at documents, Bates numbered whatever to whatever?

- 1 MR. BRUCE: Judge, this is painful, right? You know,
- 2 let me put this in context. They are asking -- they asked for
- 3 any and all documents or something where a patient complains
- 4 about the PicoSure machine. I'm paraphrasing, but that's what
- 5 he asked for, and it was really his colleague, who is not
- 6 here. That's what she asked for, okay? So then we did.
- 7 And I take umbrage with the fact that he is
- 8 suggesting that I'm not complying with your order. We had a
- 9 motion for a protective order. We argued it. I lost. He
- 10 won. You said, "Mr. Bruce, you produce it." And so then we
- 11 went through there.
- MR. SAMORE: Can I have the answers to
- 13 interrogatories?
- 14 THE COURT: Go ahead.
- MR. BRUCE: So then at that juncture, right, we
- 16 talked to the clients and everything. The complaints are
- 17 verbal. They are oral. You know, these people are
- 18 saying -- they are coming in and they are saying, "Hey, this
- 19 thing is really not taking the color off like I like. It is
- 20 not really working like you told me," whatever. I mean, these
- 21 are the context. You have to put this in context, right?
- So these people, they are not sending e-mails, they
- 23 are not writing out a form saying, "This thing doesn't work."
- 24 I don't have those, okay? Whatever we have had on that, we
- 25 gave it to them. So I said exactly what you just said, your

- 1 Honor, you know, "See the medical records of PicoSure,"
- 2 because you see this thing doesn't remove. I mean, he has got
- 3 the photographs. He knows this is just all about, you know,
- 4 spending a lot more time here.
- 5 You know, the bottom line is you can see from the
- 6 photographs in the medical records -- all of which he has,
- 7 right? -- which shows that, you know, photograph, butterfly,
- 8 butterfly, butterfly. It doesn't go away like it does in the
- 9 picture, right? It's not photoshopped. It doesn't go away,
- 10 right? So we said, "See medical records of the PicoSure
- 11 patients," which we have given to them. And then it was, "Oh,
- 12 no, no, no, no. Please provide a response" -- they didn't
- 13 like it -- "to the request by identifying all records
- 14 documenting patient complaint." Okay. So now they are
- 15 saying, "I don't want that. I want this specific document
- 16 that says 'I'm complaining,'" right? That's what she sent in
- 17 an e-mail, and I put in my response February 22nd, 2017. You
- 18 have that in front of you.
- 19 So I gave them the answer. I thought I was being
- 20 transparent, compliant with your order. I thought I was being
- 21 a good guy. I said, "Look, here are the documents. You want
- 22 the documents? It is there. You can see the thing is not
- 23 getting removed, right?" And that's what -- you know, if we
- 24 ever get to depositions in the case, they can ask these people
- 25 if that's what happened, right?

- 1 So then I do that, and then I limit it to this, and
- 2 now he is saying, "Well, he is not being compliant." Well,
- 3 Judge, I don't -- I guess he is back and forth. It is a
- 4 moving target. I give him the medical records. They say it
- 5 is -- you know, that's indicative of a complaint. It doesn't
- 6 say complaint, but I'm being overly diligent in giving it to
- 7 him. And then they say, "No, we want the ones that say
- 8 'complaint.'" Well, I don't have that.
- 9 So now he is in here before you saying --
- 10 THE COURT: If there is no documents that say it is a
- 11 complaint, there is no documents that say it is a complaint.
- 12 Now, if there is medical records that include photographs that
- 13 show a tattoo that still exists or is still visible or hasn't
- 14 faded, or whatever term we want to use, to the patient's
- 15 desire, and there is nothing written about it, there is no
- 16 document, right?
- MR. SAMORE: No, I think he is playing a game, your
- 18 Honor, because what he is saying is that nobody used the word
- 19 "complaint." We are not asking whether the word "complaint"
- 20 is in the records. We are asking for people that use any
- 21 words they may have used to complain that, or to state, to
- 22 convey, to communicate, that the tattoo removal was
- 23 unsatisfactory.
- 24 THE COURT: He is saying he doesn't have any.
- 25 MR. BRUCE: And there was like a blog site or there

- 1 was a text. I mean, of the four plaintiffs, there was one or
- 2 two, and I have given them to him. I mean, I don't have it in
- 3 front of me, but we gave them to him, whatever we got, that
- 4 complies with that. He just doesn't like the answer. He
- 5 doesn't like the answer. There is nothing else. I mean, it
- 6 is documented in the records in the sense that you have got
- 7 these photographs, as you point out, and whatever.
- 8 MS. LONG: But that's not necessarily a complaint. I
- 9 could see a picture, and it fades, and someone could be happy
- 10 with that result because they know that tattoo removal means
- 11 lightening.
- 12 THE COURT: But if he didn't write it down, he can't
- 13 produce it.
- 14 MS. LONG: Then he can't say it is a complaint.
- THE COURT: So they can't say it is a complaint.
- Now, if you are deposing somebody, and these
- 17 documents, these pictures get shown, and say, "What did Sally
- 18 Smith say relating to this," and she says she was really
- 19 pissed off that the butterfly is still there or she was really
- 20 happy that it had faded so much, there is your complaint and
- 21 your compliment, right?
- 22 MR. SAMORE: If he is saying that there were no
- 23 communications from patients conveying that they were unhappy
- 24 with their tattoo removal in the medical records, I would like
- 25 that to be stated clearly for the record. Also, though, they

- 1 haven't identified any person in response to the interrogatory
- 2 that made any much complaints, but I would like that to be
- 3 stated clearly for the record if they have nothing said about
- 4 working.
- 5 THE COURT: I think he has already said there was
- 6 some blog thing that was produced.
- 7 MR. BRUCE: That's right.
- 8 MR. SAMORE: Okay. What blog thing are you talking
- 9 about?
- MR. BRUCE: Read the answers to the interrogatories.
- 11 MR. SAMORE: No, there is no --
- 12 MR. BRUCE: There is some text or something, whatever
- 13 it is. I don't want to take up the Judge's time.
- 14 MS. LONG: I would love to talk about the text.
- MR. SAMORE: There is a text, and Hatchet identified
- 16 a Customer A who sent a text message. They didn't produce the
- 17 text message. They didn't identify the customer. So what we
- 18 have is we have at least one individual that was identified
- 19 from all of them that made a complaint. We don't know who
- 20 that individual is and we don't know what he said because they
- 21 haven't produced the text message and they haven't identified
- 22 the person.
- THE COURT: Do you have the text message?
- 24 MR. BRUCE: I thought we produced it. I don't know
- 25 if he has got it. It was one text message. We will try and

- 1 find it. I will try to find out. And I fronted the text
- 2 message. I mean, it is not like I'm hiding it, if that
- 3 comports to their request.
- 4 THE COURT: That would be responsive. That should be
- 5 produced.
- 6 MR. BRUCE: Right. Thank you, Judge.
- 7 MR. SAMORE: Also, we would like to talk about the
- 8 consent forms for tattoo removal.
- 9 THE COURT: Give me a number.
- MR. SAMORE: Okay. It is Request No. 27 and 28.
- 11 THE COURT: All right. I thought I have that
- 12 resolved, but go ahead.
- 13 MR. SAMORE: Okay. I don't think -- so because
- 14 Burke's response refers to over 2,200 pages of notes, some of
- 15 those notes state that written consent was obtained. We
- 16 actually have a -- we have records, and I will just give an
- 17 example of one of them, and that's what their answers to
- 18 interrogatories -- may I approach the bench to provide your
- 19 Honor with a copy?
- THE COURT: I have two CSOs; not one, but two.
- 21 MR. SAMORE: So we have a plaintiff that says in his
- 22 answers to interrogatories that they would obtain consent, we
- 23 have written records from when they obtained written consent,
- 24 and we don't have any written consent forms from that doctor
- 25 that we have been able to locate.

- 1 THE COURT: Hold on one second.
- 2 MR. BRUCE: Yes, I can respond to this easily, Judge.
- 3 I went out to wherever it is in Delaware, wherever it is,
- 4 wherever he is at. This is Dr. Burke. He is talking about
- 5 Dr. Burke. I asked him, "Do you use specific consent forms?"
- 6 He said, "No." And then when this came up again, he said,
- 7 "No." So I don't know what else you want me to do, Judge. I
- 8 asked a doctor, and I'm invading attorney-client privilege. I
- 9 asked the man if he used a consent form, and he said, "No,"
- 10 and here we have it. So I don't know what -- what are they
- 11 talking about. I mean, this is all spelled out in my
- 12 response. Written consent of pain, what can I do, Judge? You
- 13 know, I don't know.
- 14 THE COURT: All right.
- MR. BRUCE: It could be boilerplate. I don't know.
- 16 I mean, he --
- 17 THE COURT: So Dr. Burke, Thomas Burke, says in a
- 18 chief complaint form written consent obtained.
- 19 MR. BRUCE: Maybe this is the written consent.
- THE COURT: There is a photograph of a tattoo.
- MR. BRUCE: Is it removed? No.
- THE COURT: What is that?
- MS. LONG: I spent a lot of time in this case trying
- 24 to figure out what tattoos are.
- 25 THE COURT: So this might be the written consent. So

- 1 if this is all they have got, this is all they have got. But
- 2 at Dr. Burke's deposition, you can ask, "Is this a written
- 3 consent?" And if he says, "No, I have got a whole stack of
- 4 them," well, now we have got a different problem.
- 5 MR. SAMORE: Well, the other problem with their
- 6 response is that they indicate in their response that they
- 7 don't have any consent forms, but our request wasn't limited
- 8 to just the PicoSure product. It was for any tattoo removal
- 9 product.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay. 27 is specifically the PicoSure.
- 11 MR. SAMORE: That's true.
- 12 THE COURT: And 28 is for tattoo -- "Produce all
- 13 forms, documents you have used to obtain patient consent for
- 14 tattoo removal using any other removal procedure."
- MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay.
- 17 MR. SAMORE: This is a very important request because
- 18 what we have found with respect to the other plaintiffs is
- 19 that they required the patients to understand that tattoo
- 20 removal means lightening of the pigment.
- THE COURT: What do you mean by "other plaintiffs"?
- MR. SAMORE: The other doctors that are plaintiffs to
- 23 this case --
- THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. SAMORE: -- produced forms contradicting his

- 1 theory of the case, consistent with our position that tattoo
- 2 removal does not mean making it invisible to the naked eye.
- 3 It means significant lightening of the pigment.
- 4 THE COURT: Okay.
- 5 MR. SAMORE: And these forms specifically address
- 6 that issue.
- 7 THE COURT: Okay.
- 8 MR. SAMORE: And it is a very cagy.
- 9 THE COURT: So does Thomas Burke have them or doesn't
- 10 he have them?
- MR. BRUCE: He doesn't have any consent forms, Judge.
- 12 I asked him that.
- MR. SAMORE: For any machine, for any tattoo removal
- 14 machine in the last ten years?
- MR. BRUCE: I'm trying to find -- well, we might have
- 16 an objection on scope.
- 17 MR. SAMORE: Okay. Five years, then. Five years.
- MR. BRUCE: What number? Where are we at?
- 19 THE COURT: It is Document Request No. 28.
- MR. BRUCE: For which plaintiff? I'm trying to find
- 21 the interrogatory.
- 22 THE COURT: It sounds like it is --
- MR. BRUCE: Burke? Dr. Burke? Is that what you are
- 24 talking about, Burke?
- 25 MR. SAMORE: All of the -- I want to know whether

- 1 they have produced all consent forms that they used in the
- 2 last ten years for removal of tattoos.
- 3 THE COURT: For any product.
- 4 MR. SAMORE: Yes.
- 5 THE COURT: And it sounds like Mr. Bruce has asked
- 6 Dr. Burke if he has any consent forms, and he didn't.
- 7 MR. SAMORE: Is that true for any tattoo removal?
- 8 MR. BRUCE: Don't cross-examine me. I will go and
- 9 look. Unlike you, I have made a reasonable diligence and sat
- 10 down with my client.
- 11 THE COURT: That's enough.
- How long do you need to contact Dr. Burke?
- MR. BRUCE: I have actually asked.
- Judge, I'm trying to find it, because I want to see
- 15 how -- we are kind of glossing over this, respectfully. I
- 16 want to know what interrogatory he is talking about, and I
- 17 would like to see how I responded, because that doesn't sound
- 18 like that was relevant or discoverable. I know we got into
- 19 the issue of the consent forms for the PicoSure machine, and I
- 20 have set forth in our response at Page 3 everything we have
- 21 done. Now they are asking a different question, and I would
- 22 like to know what interrogatory they are referring to.
- 23 THE COURT: It is Document Request No. 28, and it
- 24 says, "Produce all forms or documents you have used to obtain
- 25 patient consent for tattoo removal using any other tattoo

- 1 removal" -- and it says -- "product you have used in the last
- 2 ten years." So that follows the 27, which is limited just to
- 3 the PicoSure.
- 4 MR. BRUCE: And I'm just looking, as an example, at
- 5 Dr. Ritacca's answers that I see. Once you read that, and I
- 6 now know where we are at, I said to see the previous response
- 7 on the consent forms. The question is, other than what we
- 8 have already produced, are there other ones for other
- 9 machines. I don't know the answer to the question. I mean,
- 10 I'm not going to make a representation. I don't want to make
- 11 a representation to the court if I don't know if it is true.
- 12 THE COURT: That's why I asked how much time do you
- 13 need.
- 14 MR. BRUCE: So I'm going to ask before I represent to
- 15 the court.
- THE COURT: Okay. How much time do you need?
- MR. BRUCE: Well, however much time he is taking,
- 18 your Honor.
- 19 THE COURT: My question was how much time do you
- 20 need.
- MR. BRUCE: Well, actually, Judge, I have got four
- 22 clients, and I can ask them, and I will get a response in 14
- 23 days.
- No, Mr. Gravino is saying no.
- THE COURT: We have got Easter.

- 1 MR. BRUCE: Yes, okay. Three weeks, Judge, I will
- 2 get a response. We will get a client response.
- 3 So that's No. 20?
- 4 THE COURT: 28.
- 5 MR. BRUCE: 28, request to produce.
- 6 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Samore, anything else?
- 7 MR. SAMORE: Your Honor, one thing with respect to
- 8 interrogatory -- we dealt with No. 25, and I appreciate
- 9 counsel's response to Production Request No. 25, but I don't
- 10 think that, again, he has identified any customers that
- 11 complained, and if there were none that had any oral -- that
- 12 would include verbal or written complaints. He hasn't
- 13 identified any.
- 14 MR. BRUCE: Now, this is a moving target, Judge. We
- 15 talked about this for 15 minutes. I have said in the court, I
- 16 have said in my papers, there is all kinds of patients that
- 17 have complained. I mean, there is all kinds of patients that
- 18 are unhappy with this. He has asked for documents, and we
- 19 talked about the HIPAA issue, and we are not -- we gave them
- 20 all of the documents, which pursuant to your order were
- 21 redacted. Now, it sounds like he wants to go back and revisit
- 22 this and get us to give you the names of our patients that are
- 23 not a party to this suit. We have already talked about this.
- 24 I'm not giving them the names of my patients.
- THE COURT: Can you redact them?

- 1 MR. BRUCE: He has them. He has all of the
- 2 patients -- he has every scintilla of medical records of each
- 3 of my four plaintiffs who are the ones that are the doctors.
- 4 He has each of those medical records of every patient and
- 5 every photograph of the PicoSure machine. He has got that.
- Now he is switching gears. He is unhappy with the
- 7 last response about he doesn't have any documents about
- 8 complaint. Now he is saying, "Well, Devon hasn't told me the
- 9 patients that have complained." I can't tell him the names of
- 10 the patients that have complained. You have already talked to
- 11 me about -- I mean, we have talked about that in this
- 12 courtroom.
- 13 MR. SAMORE: In your Judge's order, your Honor, it
- 14 specifically authorizes the release of protected HIPAA
- 15 information.
- MR. BRUCE: And I gave it to him.
- 17 MR. SAMORE: But we don't have any of the names of
- 18 the --
- 19 MR. BRUCE: This is the first that I'm hearing this.
- 20 Now they want the names? I have got Mr. Samore saying, "We
- 21 don't need the names." I will go back and get the report of
- 22 proceedings.
- THE COURT: We had moved on, and now apparently we
- 24 have backtracked.
- 25 MR. SAMORE: If you look at Interrogatory No. 14 --

- 1 THE COURT: Please don't interrupt.
- 2 So we have talked about Document Request No. 25. We
- 3 had beaten that dead horse beyond belief.
- 4 Now the related interrogatories, having moved past
- 5 Document Request 25, the related interrogatories are
- 6 Interrogatory No. 14 and No. 15. No. 14 says: "Identify any
- 7 and all customers who complained about the services they
- 8 received from using the PicoSure product, and for each such
- 9 customer, state the amount paid by the individual" --
- 10 MR. BRUCE: We have already ruled that out.
- 11 THE COURT: -- "for the service and the amount you
- 12 subsequently refunded."
- 13 15 is: "Identify any and all individuals who have
- 14 declined to use your tattoo removal services due to the
- 15 alleged defects."
- 16 All right. Is there anything for 15?
- 17 MR. BRUCE: I think -- is that where he is
- 18 saying -- asking me about people that didn't use it?
- 19 THE COURT: These are --
- MR. BRUCE: Yes, that was the easy objection. That
- 21 was on foundation. How will I know what we don't know, right?
- 22 But now it seems like, orally, he is saying, "I want the names
- 23 of the patients," and I have candidly -- you know, pursuant to
- 24 your order and in discussion with Mr. Samore in this room, we
- 25 haven't given them the names of the patients. I can't. I

- 1 cannot.
- THE COURT: No. 14 says: "Identify any and all
- 3 customers who complained about the services they received."
- 4 Do you know any? Now, we are not talking about -- and that's
- 5 why I started with customers being the person who comes in the
- 6 door to have the tattoo removed, not the clients who purchased
- 7 the product.
- 8 MR. BRUCE: Yes.
- 9 THE COURT: So do you have any of that?
- 10 MR. BRUCE: Do I --
- 11 THE COURT: Do you know of a human being who walked
- 12 into one of your clients' offices and said, "Oh, my God, it is
- 13 still here. Why?"
- 14 MR. BRUCE: Well, I would imagine that there are many
- 15 of those. I believe that there are many of those.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay.
- 17 MR. BRUCE: Okay. Whether or not the doctors can
- 18 identify them is one question, right --
- 19 THE COURT: Yes.
- MR. BRUCE: -- without, you know, sitting down and
- 21 looking at everything.
- 22 And the second thing is even if they get the name --
- THE COURT: You mean physically can or legally can?
- MR. BRUCE: No, I was getting to the second point.
- 25 THE COURT: One I can fix, the other I can't.

- 1 MR. BRUCE: That was my twirling of my finger.
- 2 THE COURT: Okay.
- 3 MR. BRUCE: The second point is I can't give them the
- 4 names of that, and so we can put a number next to it, an A or
- 5 B or C, whatever, if they know a specific patient, assuming
- 6 that, but that's what I put, violation of HIPAA.
- 7 And now we are getting pretty far afield, Judge, on
- 8 the allegations in this complaint, but that's okay.
- 9 THE COURT: How? I mean, my understanding of the
- 10 whole complaint is your clients bought a product that didn't
- 11 do what it was supposed to do, and I would think they would
- 12 learn that because their customers came in and said, "My
- 13 butterfly is still here, and it is supposed to be gone."
- 14 MR. BRUCE: That's right, that they saw that this is
- 15 what happened. I'm just keeping everyone focused that here is
- 16 the plaintiff here, who is the purchaser of the thing that
- 17 doesn't work, and then we have some people over here, right,
- 18 that these people can see that this thing is not working here,
- 19 and they have the evidence of that because they have all of
- 20 those people's records.
- 21 THE COURT: Right. But the people over on your left,
- 22 my right, who have the tattoo, if they are complaining about
- 23 "I'm giving you \$200 to get rid of my tattoo; my tattoo is
- 24 still here," doesn't that sound -- isn't that pretty relevant
- 25 to your case?

- 1 MR. BRUCE: Sure, yes.
- 2 THE COURT: Okay. And so that's why they want to
- 3 know who that person is.
- 4 MR. BRUCE: I can't give them the name.
- 5 THE COURT: Why?
- 6 MR. BRUCE: HIPAA.
- 7 THE COURT: I already took care of that at the last
- 8 hearing.
- 9 MR. BRUCE: No, no. Judge, I'm pretty clear. I will
- 10 go back and dig up the proceedings. I thought I suggested,
- 11 and Mr. Samore agreed, we are not getting into the names.
- 12 THE COURT: I will have to go back and look. The
- 13 transcript says what it says.
- 14 MR. BRUCE: Okay. Yes, I don't want to walk away
- 15 with everybody thinking ill of me. Those medical records, the
- 16 4,000 pages that I have given to them on the four plaintiffs,
- 17 that is HIPAA-protected material.
- THE COURT: Uh-huh.
- 19 MR. BRUCE: Okay. I mean, I just want to give -- I
- 20 have given -- I understand your ruling. I couldn't give those
- 21 without your order. But there was a discussion, I believe,
- 22 about the names, the actual names of these people.
- THE COURT: I will find out. I will have to check.
- 24 MR. BRUCE: And if I'm mistaken, I will stand
- 25 corrected, but my understanding of the law is I can't give

- 1 them the names of a nonparty under HIPAA. We can go back and
- 2 look at the transcript.
- 3 MR. SAMORE: One solution might be to identify them
- 4 the way they did by pointing to a record and saying -- or
- 5 referring to Patient A or Patient B. He says -- on the one
- 6 hand, he says there is tons of people who have complained
- 7 about the product. He says there are tons of other customers
- 8 unhappy. On the other hand, he has identified only one person
- 9 that sent a text message, which he never provided to us.
- 10 THE COURT: I have already ordered him to do it.
- 11 Look, when I make a ruling and move on, I try to keep going.
- 12 That's why it gets a little frustrating when we are
- 13 backtracking because we have talked about this. I'm not
- 14 making a decision until I read a transcript of what I decided
- 15 about it. So I am going to read it. We will figure out 14
- 16 and 15. Let's move beyond 28 now.
- 17 MR. SAMORE: The interrogatories, No. 6, 7, and 10.
- 18 THE COURT: Okay. 7 and 8, okay. I have got 6, 7,
- 19 and 8, but okay.
- 20 MR. SAMORE: They deal with investigations or
- 21 disciplinary actions by any board or professional association.
- 22 THE COURT: Right, right.
- 23 MR. SAMORE: Okay. And this is -- these are
- 24 relevant. There could be an administrative or investigative
- 25 proceeding with respect to the competency of plaintiffs in

- 1 their medical practice. There could be investigations or
- 2 disciplinary actions relating to their truth or falsity.
- 3 Your Honor has already ruled that whether they used
- 4 the product properly is relevant, and you ordered production
- 5 of records pertaining to whether they properly used the
- 6 machine.
- 7 THE COURT: What if the criminal proceeding was
- 8 dismissed or disciplinary complaint was dismissed or it was
- 9 unfounded? Civil investigations, proceedings, if they were
- 10 found unfounded, do those need to be produced?
- 11 MR. SAMORE: Well, the scope of -- it may not be
- 12 admissible, but I think the scope of discovery -- I mean, it
- 13 is not -- they are not claiming it is too burdensome. I think
- 14 that it should be produced, yes.
- 15 THE COURT: All right. Why would it be relevant if
- 16 there is -- if they are saying there was a complaint -- I will
- 17 use the Illinois version because I don't know where all the
- 18 other plaintiffs are. Let's say there was a complaint to the
- 19 Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation,
- 20 and they investigated about one of the plaintiffs and it is
- 21 unfounded. How is that relevant?
- MR. SAMORE: If they made a specific, you know,
- 23 finding that the allegations were unfounded, then I would
- 24 agree with you, but oftentimes that could lead -- end in a
- 25 more ambiguous --

- 1 THE COURT: That's why I started it with "unfounded,"
- 2 okay?
- 3 MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- 4 THE COURT: So if they are unfounded, do you need
- 5 them? They don't seem relevant to me.
- 6 MR. SAMORE: No, your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: Okay. Any criminal. So I assume you
- 8 don't need traffic tickets, parking tickets, things like that,
- 9 ordinance violations.
- 10 MR. SAMORE: That's true.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay. How about bankruptcies? How would
- 12 those be relevant?
- 13 MR. SAMORE: I don't -- I agree with you.
- 14 THE COURT: Okay. So, Mr. Bruce, it sounds like any
- 15 criminal convictions, that was produced.
- 16 MR. BRUCE: Yes -- well, again, I answered that
- 17 question in the interrogatories for each one.
- 18 THE COURT: Right. And that information was
- 19 provided, if there was any --
- MR. BRUCE: Yes, I amended the answer.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. BRUCE: Let me put this in context, Judge. What
- 23 they are doing is they are going on a fishing expedition for
- 24 dirt in a case where these people were unhappy with the
- 25 machine, and they say that it is falsely advertised, and they

- 1 want the difference in their money back. That's what this
- 2 case is.
- Now, they have asked about -- in about four
- 4 different -- and the reason why he didn't cite them is because
- 5 I answered all these for every one. They are asking if any of
- 6 these people have a financial relationship with me,
- 7 personally, whether my law firm, whether John Holevas has any
- 8 financial relationship with any of these people, and they went
- 9 on and on and on. They asked all these things, trying to dig
- 10 up dirt, and I answered all those financial questions, and the
- 11 answer is none, none, none, and none, okay?
- Okay. So then they asked about -- they want to know
- 13 about administrative hearings, board associations. Judge,
- 14 look, there has to be a point. So then not familiar with this
- 15 type of inquiry, I looked at his case law that he cited. He
- 16 cites one case, Redman vs. RadioShack, which I have cited to
- 17 extensively in our response brief, and what that had to do
- 18 with, that had to do with the fact about whether or not there
- 19 was an undue influence due to the motives of the named
- 20 plaintiff who was employed by the class counsel's former law
- 21 firm, okay? They are going far afield.
- They have no authority to start crawling into these
- 23 people's backgrounds ad nauseum to try and chase these people
- 24 away and dig up irrelevant dirt. That's what they are trying
- 25 to do. They want to dig up their lives and say, "Well, we are

- 1 not interested in pursuing this class action," and they don't
- 2 have any authority to do it, even though I think all this
- 3 stuff is beyond the realm. I have told them all about the
- 4 financial stuff. I have told them about whether or not these
- 5 people have any felonies or convictions. I have told them
- 6 about whether they have been a participant in any other class
- 7 action, which, of course, all of these answers are no.
- 8 And at some point -- and now he's -- I asked
- 9 him -- when I asked him under this Rule 37, Mr. Samore said he
- 10 wouldn't negotiate. He didn't want to amend any of his
- 11 answers. That's what the man said. And so it was a short
- 12 conversation because I said, "Eric, I don't want to waste your
- 13 time. Are you going to amend any of these?
- 14 "No."
- And so now, like many of the other things we are up
- 16 here for, now you asked him a simple question, "Why do you
- 17 need them?
- 18 "Oh, I quess I don't. I quess I don't.
- 19 "Well, why, if they are unfounded, do you need them?"
- I mean, what do they want, Judge, that we, by law,
- 21 are required to give to them? I don't think there is
- 22 anything. I have told them about felonies, financial stature,
- 23 class actions. I don't think any of them have bankruptcies.
- 24 So they are probably not -- he is not entitled to know that.
- 25 THE COURT: Well, he just said he doesn't need them.

- 1 MR. BRUCE: I mean, what's the professional --
- THE COURT: Good stuff comes out of the south
- 3 sometimes. Tennessee, there is a lot of bourbon from there.
- 4 Meyer vs. Prudential Insurance Company, 581 F.2d. 904,
- 5 Page 913: "Much of discovery is a fishing expedition of
- 6 sorts, but the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure allow the
- 7 courts to determine the pond, the type of lure, and how long
- 8 the parties can leave their lines in the water."
- 9 MR. BRUCE: I like that.
- 10 THE COURT: So I have got to figure this out. So
- 11 that's why I go with the basic things about, okay, unfounded;
- 12 not going to get, not entitled to bankruptcies; not going to
- 13 get, not entitled to criminal convictions within ten years,
- 14 absolutely. Criminal convictions relating to honesty, yes,
- 15 all that stuff that is impeachable under 609. Sure, that's
- 16 fair game.
- 17 So then I will drill down. Disciplinary proceedings,
- 18 say there is a disciplinary proceeding again by the Illinois
- 19 Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, and in
- 20 that proceeding, they find that one of the doctors is not
- 21 credible or committed perjury in some kind of way. Yes, that
- 22 would be good cross-examination. Is it burdensome? I don't
- 23 know because I don't know how --
- 24 MR. BRUCE: I haven't claimed -- I haven't claimed
- 25 burdensome. I'm claiming relevance.

- 1 THE COURT: I am just going through, in my head, why
- 2 something like that would not be discoverable.
- 3 MR. BRUCE: Let's build on that because it seems
- 4 like -- he has got something he is after, and I don't know
- 5 what it is. So we are narrowing it down to disciplinary
- 6 proceedings. So let's say we represent these doctors, and
- 7 Dr. -- I'm giving a hypothetical for the record. It is not
- 8 the case that I know at all. But let's say Dr. Burke out in
- 9 Delaware has got some -- you know, he is a physician. He does
- 10 a lot of different medical procedures. Let's say there was a
- 11 complaining patient about something, and it had nothing to
- 12 do -- I mean, it has nothing to do with any of these issues.
- 13 So now are we going to crawl into that, Judge?
- 14 THE COURT: Well, that's why I'm talking about the
- 15 pond and the lure because every doctor is going to have a
- 16 medical malpractice case. There is not a doctor alive that
- 17 doesn't have a medical malpractice. So I'm trying to limit
- 18 the scope to figure out where this goes.
- 19 MR. BRUCE: And to that point, Judge, as a person who
- 20 practices a lot of medical mal cases, I know that a lot of my
- 21 cases end up in the IDPR, right? So, I mean -- so you bring
- 22 up a good point, which is -- I hadn't even thought of that,
- 23 but to the extent that they have had ten malpractice cases
- 24 filed against them, which all has to do with negligence,
- 25 right, these are negligence cases about whether or not they

- 1 deviated from the standard of care. You know, half of those
- 2 may have some reporting to the IDPR. But what does that have
- 3 to do with buying a machine that they lied, because it says
- 4 photoshopped, and it doesn't say photoshopped, and the tattoo
- 5 is here, and then it is not here. I mean, what does that have
- 6 to do --
- 7 THE COURT: And if it is a medical malpractice case,
- 8 it has nothing to do with it. But if it is a disciplinary
- 9 proceeding where they were distributing prescriptions
- 10 improperly and covering it up, yes. Does it exist? Probably
- 11 not, because it is probably a criminal conviction that goes to
- 12 it. I just don't know. And most of this stuff -- how many
- 13 plaintiffs are we talking about here?
- 14 MR. BRUCE: Four today, but there might be more.
- 15 THE COURT: Okay. So you have got four. All of that
- 16 stuff is online. It is almost summertime. You have got to
- 17 have summer associates coming into your firm. Aren't they
- 18 going to be online, digging around? It is all online. If
- 19 there is something out there, they will find it.
- MR. BRUCE: Can we --
- 21 THE COURT: I just don't -- criminal convictions,
- 22 that has been produced. If there are -- I'm limiting it to
- 23 ten years, civil disciplinary proceedings -- or a civil
- 24 proceeding or a disciplinary proceeding in which
- 25 untruthfulness was found. So you can ask your clients. That

- 1 shouldn't take much time. If they exist, that's fair game.
- 2 That's good cross-examination. That goes to bias and that
- 3 kind of stuff.
- 4 MR. SAMORE: All right.
- 5 MR. BRUCE: And if there is not, if it doesn't fall
- 6 under the definition you just said, we are just saying none?
- 7 THE COURT: Right.
- 8 MR. BRUCE: All right.
- 9 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Samore, what do you got
- 10 next?
- 11 MR. SAMORE: Well, you know --
- MR. BRUCE: We had a number that I wanted to raise
- 13 with you.
- MR. SAMORE: Let me finish.
- 15 THE COURT: Let him finish.
- MR. SAMORE: I'm not finished.
- 17 Conversations with Cynosure representatives.
- 18 THE COURT: Okay. Give me a number.
- MR. SAMORE: I'm referring to No. 18.
- THE COURT: 18. I thought we talked about that, but
- 21 shoot. Go ahead.
- 22 MR. SAMORE: That's supporting allegations that
- 23 Cynosure knew that its representations were false.
- 24 THE COURT: Yep. We had that big -- that was the
- 25 attorney-client privilege.

- 1 MR. SAMORE: Well --
- MS. LONG: Sorry, it is confusing, Request For
- 3 Production 18 and Interrogatory 18, which are actually
- 4 different things.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay.
- 6 MS. LONG: So we already talked about the putative
- 7 class members.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay.
- 9 MS. LONG: This is about Plaintiffs' staff members.
- 10 MR. SAMORE: Okay. What they -- and this production
- 11 motion is limited to two plaintiffs.
- 12 THE COURT: Are we talking about production or
- 13 interrogatories?
- 14 MR. SAMORE: This discovery request involves
- 15 Interrogatory No. 18, and it is with respect to two of the
- 16 responses.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay.
- 18 MR. SAMORE: With respect to Hatchet, Plaintiff
- 19 answered that Cynosure's agents informed Plaintiff's staff
- 20 members on multiple occasions that the PicoSure machine would
- 21 not remove or eliminate tattoos. We asked for -- we want to
- 22 know, okay, if this happened, what staff members were told
- 23 this, what Cynosure agents were told this.
- 24 THE COURT: Let me make sure I have the right one.
- 25 My Interrogatory 18 for the Defendants says: "Identify any

- 1 and all bases for your allegations that Cynosure 'knew' or was
- 2 'aware' misrepresentations regarding PicoSure products were
- 3 false." Is that the interrogatory we are talking about?
- 4 MR. SAMORE: Yes, your Honor.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay. So now you lost me here. So what
- 6 are we talking about?
- 7 MS. LONG: In their response --
- 8 THE COURT: Okay.
- 9 MS. LONG: -- they say they object because it calls
- 10 for a narrative answer, and then they say that Cynosure's
- 11 agents and/or representatives informed Plaintiff's staff
- 12 members on multiple occasions.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay.
- MS. LONG: Da, da, da.
- They, after we pushed them, finally revealed the
- 16 Cynosure representatives that they have talked about or that
- 17 they are referencing in that response, but they still -- they
- 18 say that these Cynosure agents spoke to Plaintiff's staff, and
- 19 we have asked repeatedly for identification who on Plaintiff's
- 20 staff that was and have yet to get a response.
- 21 MR. BRUCE: I have no idea what they are talking
- 22 about, Judge.
- MS. LONG: Okay. So it is on Docket 105-5. So it is
- 24 Page 7 of Exhibit E to our motion.
- MR. BRUCE: What plaintiff?

- 1 THE COURT: Hold on. Hold on. Hold on.
- MS. LONG: This is Hatchet.
- 3 THE COURT: Hold on. Wait, wait, wait.
- 4 MS. LONG: Sorry.
- 5 THE COURT: All right. 105-5, tell me what page
- 6 number.
- 7 MS. LONG: It is Page 10 of 69.
- 8 THE COURT: All right. Hold on.
- 9 All right. I'm with you, Ms. Long. Which number,
- 10 18? Okay. Give me a second.
- 11 Yes, okay.
- 12 Okay. Mine says -- mine identifies the three
- 13 Cynosure representatives.
- MS. LONG: Yes.
- 15 THE COURT: Brice, Carnie, and Kaufman.
- MS. LONG: But it doesn't identify the names of the
- 17 Plaintiff's staff members.
- 18 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Do you know the
- 19 names -- do you see where we are, Mr. Bruce?
- MR. BRUCE: Now I find it. They never told me that
- 21 that's what they wanted to know. They complained, and I gave
- 22 them the name of the Cynosure class. Now they are
- 23 asking -- first of all, I have no idea if my Plaintiffs -- who
- 24 said that to them, but that's not -- I mean, I wish Mr. -- I
- 25 really wish Mr. Samore had told me that's what he was after.

- 1 So I'm not going to represent to the court. I understand. He
- 2 is saying --
- 3 THE COURT: How about three weeks to get an answer to
- 4 that, if they know, if they remember?
- 5 MR. BRUCE: But I want to be clear so I don't do
- 6 anything wrong. It is which of the -- it is
- 7 Plaintiff -- which one?
- 8 MR. SAMORE: It is Hatchet and Ritacca.
- 9 MR. BRUCE: We want to ask Dr. Ritacca --
- 10 MR. SAMORE: And Dr. Hatchet.
- 11 THE COURT: Who on their staff talked to Brice,
- 12 Carnie, and Kaufman.
- MR. BRUCE: Who on staff --
- 14 THE COURT: And complained about those --
- 15 MR. BRUCE: If they remember. Fair enough. Got it,
- 16 Judge.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay.
- 18 MR. BRUCE: I thought they were complaining about the
- 19 names of the Cynosure reps, which we gave them.
- 20 THE COURT: You gave those three names. They want to
- 21 know who the other part of this conversation was. They want
- 22 foundation.
- MR. BRUCE: Got it.
- 24 MR. SAMORE: I just want to say, for the record, if
- 25 you also look at Document 105-2, Page --

- 1 THE COURT: Hold on. Hold on.
- 2 Okay. 105-2. What page?
- 3 MS. LONG: Page 5.
- 4 MR. SAMORE: Page 5.
- 5 THE COURT: Page 5 of 8?
- 6 MR. SAMORE: Okay. Under Paragraph No. 9, we asked
- 7 specifically for them to identify the members of Plaintiff's
- 8 staff referred to.
- 9 THE COURT: Okay. Well, now he is going to do it.
- 10 MR. SAMORE: Okay. Thank you.
- 11 THE COURT: Problem solved.
- MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- THE COURT: Okay. What's the next one?
- 14 MR. SAMORE: Then we have our motion to compel, and I
- 15 think this will be very short, evidence relevant to direct
- 16 damages.
- MR. BRUCE: Oh, no, Judge, we are not done with my
- 18 motion to compel.
- 19 MR. SAMORE: Well, we filed a motion to compel
- 20 evidence related to direct damages, that is evidence regarding
- 21 revenues obtained from the PicoSure machines.
- 22 THE COURT: All right. Before we get into that, I'm
- 23 going to turn back to Mr. Bruce, and we are going to go
- 24 through and see what other, if any, remaining issues exist.
- 25 MR. BRUCE: And, Judge, if I cite something you ruled

- 1 on, just chastise me.
- 2 THE COURT: Okay.
- 3 MR. BRUCE: All right. So I'm going to start. I'm
- 4 just going to flip through my motion to compel, so you know
- 5 where I'm at, because when I did it, I cited both what I asked
- 6 for and what they responded. Do you follow me?
- 7 THE COURT: Okay.
- 8 MR. BRUCE: So I'm on Page 5. I didn't hear you talk
- 9 about --
- 10 THE COURT: Just tell me the production request and
- 11 the number.
- MR. BRUCE: Third Request for Production, No. 2.
- 13 THE COURT: Got you.
- 14 MR. BRUCE: Studies, research, or data, and I cited
- 15 you both the BASF case and Matrixx case.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay.
- 17 MR. BRUCE: I say the machine doesn't work. They say
- 18 the machine does work, despite what they told the FDA. That's
- 19 their contention, at least currently. I am entitled to know
- 20 anything in their possession, and they are all saying, "Well,
- 21 it is voluminous," whatever.
- 22 THE COURT: I understand that, and I think the terms
- 23 "study, research, and data" are not vague or confusing. It is
- 24 amazing how some of the smartest people in this country, who
- 25 spent at least seven years going to school, don't know what

- 1 study, research -- don't know what -- we know what those mean.
- 2 But my notes reflect and my recollection is they said
- 3 that they are not withholding any documents on that.
- 4 MS. LONG: That's correct.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay. That was one of the ones that I
- 6 had under the resolved category. And everybody is on notice,
- 7 right? Everybody knows where we are going with this thing.
- 8 MR. BRUCE: Okay. Judge, interrogatory -- same Third
- 9 Request For Production, No. 3.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. BRUCE: They not only asked, they re-asked, sent
- 12 me e-mails. You said, to quote the esteemed Judge Johnston,
- 13 "What is good for the goose is good for the gander." That's
- 14 citing Judge Johnston. They have bugged me to death about the
- 15 names of all the other PicoSure -- or all the other
- 16 tattoo-lightening machines that my clients have purchased, and
- 17 they not only want the name, they want the model number, and
- 18 they have been bugging me about the price, which we gave them.
- 19 So that's what we want.
- MS. LONG: I'm sorry?
- MR. BRUCE: Interrogatory No. 3.
- MS. LONG: Interrogatory No. 3?
- MR. BRUCE: "What price did Defendant charge for the
- 24 Revlite product that was used in the FDA clinical test to
- 25 compare with the PicoSure?"

- 1 MS. LONG: Price or price range. We gave them a
- 2 price range.
- 3 MR. SAMORE: I think we complied with that
- 4 interrogatory.
- 5 MR. BRUCE: Okay. The range they gave us was 50,000
- 6 to 175,000. It is a broad range. I will go back and ask for
- 7 the price. That's fine.
- 8 THE COURT: Yes, they gave the range.
- 9 MR. BRUCE: It is on me to be more specific.
- 10 THE COURT: They gave the range. Okay.
- 11 MR. BRUCE: I think you addressed -- I'm at the
- 12 Fourth Set of Production now, No. 2.
- 13 THE COURT: Yes. No. 2, okay.
- 14 MR. BRUCE: We talked about they have got statements
- 15 of the Plaintiffs. I mean, the website -- okay, Mr. Gravino
- 16 is whispering you granted that.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay.
- 18 MR. BRUCE: Now, what hasn't been discussed
- 19 is -- referred to, but not discussed -- is Fifth Set of
- 20 Request to Produce Documents.
- 21 THE COURT: Fifth set? Hold on one second. Fifth
- 22 set, request to produce, go ahead.
- MR. BRUCE: Yes, No. 1.
- THE COURT: Which number?
- 25 MR. BRUCE: No. 1.

- 1 THE COURT: Okay.
- 2 MR. BRUCE: Counsel has candidly admitted there is a
- 3 client file for each of these PicoSure people, and we want it.
- 4 We want the contracts. You have already ordered. We are
- 5 going to talk to them about the e-mails, unless it is just in
- 6 a file, which she said, I thought -- we can go back and read
- 7 the transcript -- electronic and written, I thought I heard,
- 8 which would be really easy to produce and just send it to a
- 9 copy service at my expense. So I don't know that we have to
- 10 get into a whole e-mail search if they have got e-mails that
- 11 are in the customers files' and correspondence with each
- 12 purchase of the PicoSure product.
- MS. LONG: I would just like to say that my use of
- 14 the word "file," I think counsel is reading a lot into that
- 15 and assuming that he knows what's in the file, and I don't
- 16 even know what's in the file. So I couldn't possibly have
- 17 been saying that.
- 18 THE COURT: Okay. Well, I was just going to ask you
- 19 what is a client file. Do we know what a client file is?
- 20 MS. LONG: I am fairly confident that it is not
- 21 comprehensive communication. Every time a customer e-mails,
- 22 that e-mail does not go into the file. I can't say that with
- 23 a hundred percent certainty, but based on my conversations.
- 24 That file would be huge because, again, after we sell a laser,
- 25 the relationship is ongoing with clinical, with regulatory,

- 1 with finance sometimes if there is questions about their
- 2 payments of the laser.
- 3 THE COURT: And I agree it could be huge. It could
- 4 be massive.
- 5 MS. LONG: And I do not believe that they are all
- 6 stored in that file.
- 7 THE COURT: But if it is a client file, then it will
- 8 be Client X, and it is a file. It may be huge, but it is easy
- 9 to produce.
- 10 MS. LONG: I'm almost positive that that's not true,
- 11 but I can confirm.
- 12 THE COURT: I don't know.
- MR. BRUCE: They said they pulled the files. That's
- 14 what she said several times.
- 15 MS. LONG: That the contract was in. I said that
- 16 there is a file that contains a contract. I never said there
- 17 is a file that contains every single thing.
- 18 THE COURT: Find out if there is something that we
- 19 are referring to as "client file." If there is a file for
- 20 every customer that has the contract, the invoices,
- 21 communications back and forth, anything related to that
- 22 customer, if there is a client file or a file that has -- or
- 23 maybe it is a customer file that has all of that, it might be
- 24 massive.
- 25 MS. LONG: I will confirm that, but I'm --

- 1 THE COURT: But it would certainly be responsive to
- 2 all kinds of these requests and easy to produce.
- 3 MS. LONG: Yes, I'm almost positive that that's not
- 4 the case, and I just want to make sure that I'm being clear,
- 5 because counsel has intimated a couple of times that I said
- 6 that, and I never said that.
- 7 THE COURT: Find out. And if we have an issue, we
- 8 can always have an evidentiary hearing. We can have witnesses
- 9 testify about things.
- 10 MR. BRUCE: Yes, Judge, and to put a finer point, I
- 11 may, depending on what their response is, be asking, you know,
- 12 before we get too much further, for the 206 witness with the
- 13 most knowledge of that record retention of the client files,
- 14 because I can't imagine that it is not what she said earlier,
- 15 that there is a client file to pull, and I would like to ask
- 16 somebody under oath who has the most knowledge about that, if
- 17 they come back and say, "We don't have it," that way. I don't
- 18 want to play games.
- 19 THE COURT: You can always take a 30(b)(6)
- 20 representative deposition on document retention.
- MR. BRUCE: Great. Thanks, Judge.
- 22 THE COURT: That's always within the scope.
- MR. BRUCE: Sixth Request For Production, No. 1.
- THE COURT: Yes.
- MR. BRUCE: The same thing, Judge. It is their

- 1 client file.
- THE COURT: All right. Hold on one second here.
- 3 This is about complaints, problems -- complaints,
- 4 problems, and concerns regarding maintenance issues.
- 5 MR. BRUCE: And they say they are going to supplement
- 6 or amend at the bottom.
- 7 MS. LONG: We say we reserve our right if anything
- 8 new comes up. We are not withholding based on that.
- 9 THE COURT: Okay. And that's what I'm saying. Is
- 10 there anything that is being withheld, or are you -- this is
- 11 an issue that you are saying you are producing the complaint
- 12 log and nothing else?
- MS. LONG: This is one where they are asking for
- 14 literally all communications with any customer about anything
- 15 ever. So if a customer writes --
- 16 THE COURT: No, it says about complaints, problems,
- 17 or concerns.
- 18 MS. LONG: Including, but not limited to --
- 19 THE COURT: E-mails or communications about the --
- 20 MS. LONG: -- complaints, problems, or concerns. I
- 21 think it is our position that those would all have been logged
- 22 in the complaint log that we produced.
- MR. BRUCE: Judge --
- 24 THE COURT: If you think it might be your position
- 25 that -- I need something a little more definitive.

- 1 MR. BRUCE: Can we get an affidavit from somebody at
- 2 Cynosure? Or I will take that records dep that you talked
- 3 about. Judge, we have to get to the bottom of it. It doesn't
- 4 sound like they have done anything to look for this stuff.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay. We will find out. We will find
- 6 out. Okay.
- 7 So what's the next one, Mr. Bruce?
- 8 MR. BRUCE: Sixth Request For Production, No. 2.
- 9 THE COURT: Okay. Hold on. No. 2.
- 10 MR. BRUCE: Yes, and can I flesh this out, Judge?
- 11 THE COURT: Yes, go ahead.
- MR. BRUCE: So here I'm asking for documents from the
- 13 Defendant regarding other lawsuits or claims. So it is not
- 14 simply a pleading in court, but if somebody is calling or
- 15 writing and saying, "I want my money back, this thing doesn't
- 16 work, I'm rejecting it, I'm rescinding it or suing, breach of
- 17 contract," whatever. That is any of that.
- They object, among other things, as attorney-client/
- 19 work product privileges. Just so we are clear, I'm asking for
- 20 people who are adverse to Cynosure, asking them for any claims
- 21 or lawsuits, and I can't imagine how that's attorney-client or
- 22 attorney work product.
- 23 THE COURT: Claims or lawsuits regarding the
- 24 products, involving the machine, okay. So it is limited to
- 25 that. But you don't need like in Title VII or an employment

- 1 or a slip-and-fall or anything like that.
- 2 You want if there is lawsuits -- again, we know what
- 3 a lawsuit is -- involving the PicoSure machine. You want to
- 4 see those.
- 5 Do those even exist?
- 6 MR. SAMORE: They don't.
- 7 MS. LONG: And there are no other lawsuits in the
- 8 United States about the PicoSure machine.
- 9 THE COURT: How about outside the United States?
- 10 MS. LONG: I think -- it is our position that
- 11 litigation outside the United States is not relevant to this
- 12 issue of how we marketed the machine within the United States.
- 13 The basis of this claim is a false marketing.
- 14 THE COURT: I disagree. I disagree. Are there other
- 15 lawsuits outside the United States?
- MR. SAMORE: I don't --
- 17 MS. LONG: No, there is one, Melbourne. There is
- 18 one. We can produce the pleadings from that. Obviously, this
- 19 is where it comes up with privilege. There is one piece of
- 20 litigation. So we will produce the pleadings.
- 21 THE COURT: Produce the pleadings.
- 22 MS. LONG: Okay. The publicly available docket
- 23 information regarding it, We will produce that.
- 24 THE COURT: Produce the pleadings.
- MR. BRUCE: And, Judge, what about --

- 1 THE COURT: And then claim.
- 2 MR. BRUCE: Right.
- 3 THE COURT: So if you call up an insurance -- if you
- 4 get in a dispute with your neighbor or something, and you end
- 5 up calling an insurance rep, that's a claim under a policy or
- 6 something like that. And it is more than just a complaint.
- 7 We have talked about complaints. We have got that covered.
- A claim, so if somebody hasn't filed a lawsuit, but
- 9 called and threatened and said, "I want my money back," do
- 10 those exist?
- MS. LONG: We produced the one -- I am aware of one
- 12 incident of that, and we produced the letter that we received.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. All right.
- 14 MR. BRUCE: Is that inside or outside the United
- 15 States?
- 16 MS. LONG: That's inside the United States. I don't
- 17 think -- I am not aware of claims outside the United States.
- 18 I think that that gets a bit farfetched.
- 19 THE COURT: Well, if they exist, produce them.
- MR. BRUCE: Judge, Request to Produce No. 3, the same
- 21 set, in this one, we are asking -- I will give you the context
- 22 and maybe we can expedite this.
- Because of the very, what we think, is damning
- 24 evidence for them when they told the FDA it doesn't do what
- 25 the photographs depicted that it does, which is clearly what

- 1 the FDA documents that they submitted said, then that got my
- 2 interest, and I'm asking for any documents, e-mails,
- 3 correspondence, communications with any governmental agency
- 4 regarding the PicoSure product.
- 5 What we are looking for there is if they told the FDA
- 6 that, what did they tell the Aussies, what did they tell the
- 7 Canadians, what did they tell the State of California, what
- 8 did they tell these other governmental agencies. And instead
- 9 of giving all this boilerplate, if the answer is just "No,
- 10 that's it," then that's fine. I mean, "None other than the
- 11 FDA ones previously produced," that's fine. But they give me
- 12 this whole list thing, and now I'm thinking, well, they told
- 13 other governments, and maybe they told them the same thing or
- 14 maybe they told them something different. I won't know until
- 15 they give it to me.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay. It seems a little broad, but go
- 17 ahead. It seems like there is something that should be
- 18 provided, but they are asking for a lot. So tell me what your
- 19 position is.
- 20 MS. LONG: I think a lot of that is going to be
- 21 redundant. I would have to discuss it with my client. But to
- 22 the extent that we have talked to any governmental agency
- 23 about registering our business office so that we can sell the
- 24 PicoSure, you know, getting a business license, maintaining a
- 25 business license --

- 1 MR. SAMORE: Yes, this is --
- THE COURT: Right. And I agree. That's why I think
- 3 it is broad. But I understand if there is representations
- 4 that were made similar to the FDA, then it seems relevant.
- 5 MR. BRUCE: I will limit it in any way, Judge, you
- 6 deem fit. We know what we are after. We are talking about
- 7 the efficacy, of the effectiveness of this product, which they
- 8 already -- you know, I mean, again, I think they cited a bunch
- 9 of studies, which we have never seen in the FDA documents.
- 10 But they have said they have given them, so I will go back and
- 11 look. I'm sure I may have missed them. But they might cite
- 12 other studies to the Aussies or the Canadians or whatever. So
- 13 I would limit it to the effectiveness, efficacy of the
- 14 PicoSure product. How is that, Judge?
- MR. SAMORE: Your Honor, this is -- the FDA
- 16 materials, this -- there was absolutely no misrepresentation.
- 17 This is really a -- the whole suit is really --
- 18 MS. LONG: This is a death by a thousand paper cuts
- 19 at this point.
- MR. SAMORE: What they are trying to do is simply
- 21 kill us with the production requests and time to respond to
- 22 material. It is like having the same witness during trial
- 23 come on and talk about the same topic. We have produced the
- 24 information to the relevant, germane authority in the United
- 25 States. That should be sufficient.

- 1 THE COURT: Look, if you are selling the product in
- 2 Australia or the UK, and you tell those government bodies
- 3 "This product does exactly what we say it is going to do" or
- 4 "doesn't do what we say it is going to do," either way, that
- 5 seems highly relevant. If they don't exist, they don't exist.
- 6 But if you are making a representation to a government body
- 7 that regulates your client's product in some way, and you say
- 8 that it does everything it is supposed to do, as we understand
- 9 the term, well, that's helpful for you, and I think you would
- 10 want to produce it. If it says the contrary, well, then, it
- 11 is relevant, and it goes to them, and you have got to deal
- 12 with it. Now, if they don't exist, they don't exist. But if
- 13 there are studies, and they are limited to any studies cited
- 14 to any government agency regarding the efficacy of the
- 15 PicoSure, that's what I limit it to, and I limit it to 2011.
- MR. BRUCE: Thank you, your Honor.
- 17 MR. GRAVINO: Limit it to? What was that, your
- 18 Honor, to the year --
- 19 THE COURT: 2011.
- MR. BRUCE: You mean 2011 to the present?
- 21 THE COURT: Correct, yes, 2011 going forward.
- 22 MR. BRUCE: Did you -- I don't think so, but I could
- 23 be wrong. Did you rule on Plaintiffs' Sixth Request For
- 24 Production, No. 7 and 8, Judge? You ruled on 9 and 10. Did
- 25 you rule on 7 and 8, and I just missed it?

- 1 THE COURT: 7 and 8, that's another one where the
- 2 Defendant said that they are not withholding any documents.
- 3 MR. BRUCE: They formally made that representation.
- 4 That's fine.
- 5 THE COURT: Correct.
- 6 MR. BRUCE: 14, Judge, did you rule on that one,
- 7 software update? On that, you ruled?
- 8 THE COURT: Yes, and that's another one where they
- 9 say they are not withholding any documents.
- 10 MR. BRUCE: Okay. 15 and 16, Judge?
- 11 THE COURT: Yes, also saying they are not withholding
- 12 any documents.
- MR. BRUCE: All right. 19?
- 14 THE COURT: Not withholding any documents.
- MR. BRUCE: And I'm sorry, Judge, I should have taken
- 16 better notes. I'm sorry.
- 17 THE COURT: That's all right.
- 18 MR. BRUCE: Did you rule on 22?
- 19 THE COURT: Yes, not withholding any documents.
- MR. BRUCE: Oh, 26, did you get to that one, Judge?
- 21 That's important.
- 22 THE COURT: I did not. I did not.
- MR. BRUCE: Okay. So let me give you some context,
- 24 Judge.
- 25 THE COURT: I did not talk about 26, yes, because I

- 1 have a big "no" next to it. So tell me why you need it.
- 2 MR. BRUCE: Oh, okay. Well, I think by the time I
- 3 finish --
- 4 THE COURT: So give me a good pitch.
- 5 MR. BRUCE: Well, I will.
- Judge, look, so as we peel back the onion, as I
- 7 understand it, Cynosure was selling this \$300,000 thing that
- 8 they photoshopped the tattoos about, and let's say, you know,
- 9 the other machines that were on the market at the time were,
- 10 let's just say, 50 grand, hypothetically.
- Now, apparently what they did is that they worked
- 12 with a finance entity. I don't know the relationship, which
- 13 is why we are asking for this. And they set up these people
- 14 to buy this. They said, "Oh, no, no, no. You don't have the
- 15 money? We will help you." And they had these very complex
- 16 agreements with the -- between Cynosure -- and this is all
- 17 upon information and belief; I'm just learning about
- 18 this -- between Cynosure, the finance entity, and then the
- 19 prospective buyer because they can't pay the 300 grand.
- So I want to peel back that onion, and as I'm
- 21 starting to learn more about this, Judge, you may see another
- 22 or they may see another round of discovery because I don't
- 23 know if they have been rather specific in their answers about
- 24 who the purchasers of this machine are. There may be a whole
- 25 other bunch of people who got leaseback agreements, got lease

- 1 agreements, got loan-to-buy agreements, and if they have been
- 2 narrowly tailoring their answers to myself and this court, we
- 3 may be -- you know, there may be more people out there. I
- 4 don't know. I'm not saying that. I'm not representing that.
- 5 But I do know that several people have, I believe -- I
- 6 believe, upon information and belief -- were directed to some
- 7 other financial entity which has a relationship with Cynosure.
- 8 So I want to get that information.
- 9 THE COURT: How is it relevant to your claims? It
- 10 certainly might be -- you might be able to -- I don't want to
- 11 use the word "spin." You might be able to convey that, and
- 12 you might be able to make it sound nefarious and all of that
- 13 to a jury. But as to the relevance of the claims, even under
- 14 the broad scope of relevance in discovery, how is it relevant?
- MR. BRUCE: Yes, so two ways. First of all, there
- 16 might be a whole world of other class members that I don't
- 17 know about, that you don't know about today, number one, okay?
- 18 So number one.
- 19 Number two, which have knowledge about the
- 20 complaints, which they have gotten complaints from those other
- 21 people, which we would use, right, in the course of this case
- 22 to prove that the machine doesn't work. I think that's
- 23 probably one of them.
- 24 And second of all, Judge --
- 25 THE COURT: Well, you are getting the 450 contracts,

- 1 so you are going to know who they are.
- MR. BRUCE: No, that's the point, Judge. That's the
- 3 point. Do they have a whole different series of people that
- 4 they have some loosey-goosey lease arrangement, who got the
- 5 PicoSure machine? That's what I'm trying to find out, Judge,
- 6 are there people -- maybe Mr. Samore would just tell us. Are
- 7 there people, other than purchasers, that Cynosure has that,
- 8 through some financial arrangement, ultimately obtained the
- 9 PicoSure machines from them? Because I want to know about
- 10 their complaints. I want to know about what representations
- 11 they made to those people and so on.
- But more to the point, Judge, in terms of once they
- 13 say -- if I'm correct -- and maybe they will come back and
- 14 say, "Devon, there is no third-party company," and the
- 15 discussion will end. But let's just say there is Johnson
- 16 Financing Company. Well, Judge, I will throw a subpoena on
- 17 Johnson Financing Company and ask for "any and all complaints
- 18 that you have received from your clients concerning the use,
- 19 efficacy of this machine," because if I'm some poor
- 20 dermatologist starting off in Oregon, and they fix me up with
- 21 some finance company that they have got a relationship, and
- 22 the thing doesn't work, and I'm losing my money, and I had to
- 23 pay 300 grand for this, I'm sure as hell going to complain to
- 24 these people and say, "This thing doesn't work that you guys
- 25 got me this money for," right? And you say, "Well, it is not

- 1 there." Well, I don't know, but we will find out as soon as
- 2 they tell me the name of the company.
- 3 THE COURT: Well, when you get financing, it is just
- 4 somebody floating you a loan to buy the product. You still
- 5 have a contract and agreement with the person selling it to
- 6 you.
- 7 MR. BRUCE: It is unclear to me what this arrangement
- 8 is, and if you look at this thing, this recitation they have
- 9 shown from John Palastra at the eleventh hour, they spend a
- 10 lot of time telling me why they can't produce this financing
- 11 arrangement. So I'm interested in this now, and that's why we
- 12 have asked for it, and they are stonewalling us. Just what is
- 13 the harm of them telling us what is the name of the
- 14 third-party company? Give us the contract they have with
- 15 them. That's it.
- 16 THE COURT: You asked for more than that.
- 17 MR. BRUCE: Well, no, I will throw a subpoena on
- 18 them. I will deal with them. Just the contracts or
- 19 agreements with any third-party entity, any type of financial
- 20 relationship to sell the machine. I will go deal with them
- 21 myself.
- 22 MS. LONG: I don't think counsel can complain that we
- 23 don't give enough burden facts on the one hand, and then on
- 24 the one place where we were able to, in a week, able to get
- 25 together our burden facts, complain that we have provided too

- 1 many burden facts. It is a bit confusing there.
- 2 But we don't, to my knowledge, have a single
- 3 party -- or, no, we don't, I will say that, have a single part
- 4 about finances.
- 5 As is laid out in the declaration from
- 6 Mr. Palastra --
- 7 THE COURT: Where is the -- what's the -- give me the
- 8 declaration.
- 9 MS. LONG: 117-1.
- 10 THE COURT: This stack.
- MS. LONG: It is on the bottom of Page 2 and at the
- 12 top of Page 3. He makes clear in Paragraph 14 that "Each
- 13 customer who finances can use whatever financial institution
- 14 they choose."
- MR. BRUCE: And I don't dispute that, Judge. They
- 16 have got a special arrangement with an entity, and if we have
- 17 to peel back, and I have to spend a lot of time and money
- 18 doing that, when they can just tell me who it is -- I'm not
- 19 saying that they can't finance it. This is a nonanswer. I
- 20 didn't ask that question. I know that. I know that.
- The question I have is "Do you guys have an agreement
- 22 or contract with some entity that you have set up to help
- 23 finance your customers, that you would steer them to?" That's
- 24 what I want to know.
- Now I'm curious. Why are they --

- 1 MS. LONG: The request is much broader than "Do you
- 2 have a special company that you have some sort of special
- 3 relationship with?"
- 4 THE COURT: Well, he is limiting it now. Mr. Bruce
- 5 is a good guy. He is a smart attorney. So what he is doing
- 6 is he realizes he was going to lose on what he asked for, so
- 7 he is scaling it back. He is trying to get something out of
- 8 it.
- 9 MS. LONG: He asked for any third party --
- 10 THE COURT: He has already dumped that. He is not
- 11 asking for that. Now he is peeling it back. That's the whole
- 12 Rule 37 discussion.
- MR. BRUCE: Mr. Samore said he would not amend any
- 14 answer, so that ended it, and that is the truth.
- 15 THE COURT: Let me read. Let me read.
- 16 (Brief pause.)
- 17 THE COURT: All right. I will only require, if it
- 18 even exists, any contract with a third-party financing company
- 19 for customers that purchased the PicoSure product.
- MR. BRUCE: Thank you, Judge.
- 21 THE COURT: That's it.
- I think that's the end of my documents. Anything
- 23 else?
- MR. BRUCE: No.
- 25 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Samore, we were talking

- 1 about --
- 2 MR. SAMORE: And I believe this should be short
- 3 because there was no response to this motion.
- 4 THE COURT: All right.
- 5 MR. SAMORE: It was our motion to compel evidence to
- 6 direct damages, namely the revenues from the PicoSure machines
- 7 that they -- the Plaintiffs purchased. The Plaintiffs, you
- 8 may recall, agreed to limit their theory of damages to direct
- 9 damages. Direct damages is the difference between the value
- 10 of the goods as represented versus the value as delivered.
- One of the factors in determining the value of a good
- 12 as delivered is the revenue that it generated. This is
- 13 recognized by the case precedent, by expert affidavit that we
- 14 have attached, and the professional literature, authoritative
- 15 literature, and by one putative class member who testified
- 16 with respect to the importance of the revenue data for
- 17 evaluating whether or not to purchase the PicoSure.
- 18 The Plaintiffs didn't respond. This concerns
- 19 Interrogatories 11 and 12 and the Production Request No. 14.
- 20 We would ask that these interrogatories and this production
- 21 request be complied with.
- THE COURT: Go ahead.
- MR. HOLEVAS: Your Honor, Mr. Bruce and Mr. Gravino
- 24 have taken the laboring oar on the other discovery items, so I
- 25 was asked to review this.

- 1 First and foremost, Judge, it was my understanding
- 2 that this was noticed for presentment. I don't think there
- 3 was ever contemplated that there was going to be any formal
- 4 response submitted as of today's date. But notwithstanding
- 5 that, Judge, and we can respond to it if the court believes
- 6 that it is necessary, I reviewed your Document No. 81, the
- 7 minute order that you had entered on the 15th of August of
- 8 2016, where you already dealt with this issue.
- 9 THE COURT: Yes.
- MR. HOLEVAS: So I didn't know if this was some type
- 11 of a motion for reconsideration that has now been filed about
- 12 eight months after you had previously ruled. I note with
- 13 great interest that you --
- 14 THE COURT: There was comments repeatedly about a
- 15 motion for clarification or something like that, and I know I
- 16 had ruled on it, and it sounded very familiar.
- 17 MR. HOLEVAS: Right. That's why we were --
- 18 THE COURT: So when I read this, I didn't know what
- 19 we were doing on it.
- MR. HOLEVAS: We had the same confusion, your Honor,
- 21 because I think it has already been addressed by this court.
- 22 Nothing has changed, and I think the court very astutely
- 23 indicates in your order that "Defendant, despite having
- 24 several opportunities in the many briefs offered in the course
- 25 of cross motions, has provided no counter authority, and this

- 1 court's research disclosed none."
- 2 Judge, the two declarations that they attached to
- 3 their motion, one that counsel has already alluded to, and I
- 4 think his co-counsel has indicated that there was some e-mails
- 5 from that declarant that they are going to have to provide
- 6 within the next 14 days, obviously, we don't have any of that
- 7 information to review.
- 8 THE COURT: Isn't this just a gussied-up motion to
- 9 reconsider? Instead of taking me on, you are pointing the
- 10 finger at them and saying they didn't do something, instead of
- 11 saying, "Judge, you screwed up."
- MR. SAMORE: No. Your Honor, I think that what
- 13 happened procedurally was that in their complaint, they sought
- 14 consequential damages, and we requested this information
- 15 because it was relevant to consequential damages. Then at the
- 16 hearing, and very confusing, they went back and forth, but
- 17 they withdrew their claim for consequential damages.
- 18 THE COURT: Mr. Bruce did it explicitly, multiple
- 19 times.
- 20 MR. SAMORE: Well, they -- it was confusing in their
- 21 responses, and I think that that's a side point. They
- 22 withdrew their claim for consequential damages for the first
- 23 time at that hearing. That is not in the record anywhere
- 24 else. Whether this is a motion to reconsider --
- 25 THE COURT: Other than a transcript?

- 1 MR. SAMORE: -- whether this is a motion that's up,
- 2 you know what you meant by the order, and if you believe this
- 3 was dealt with, then it is a motion to reconsider.
- 4 THE COURT: Look, you are the one that put the
- 5 caption on it. You tell me what you want me to do. But you
- 6 can't ask for a motion to reconsider my ruling and point a
- 7 finger of blame at them for not responding to a discovery
- 8 request if I have already ruled on it saying it is not
- 9 relevant. Just tell me if you think I'm wrong. If you think
- 10 I'm wrong --
- MR. SAMORE: Well, I think that you are wrong, that
- 12 your order dealt with the issue of direct damages.
- 13 THE COURT: All right.
- 14 MR. SAMORE: And I defer to your Honor, but so far as
- 15 it dealt with direct damages, the order was erroneous.
- THE COURT: Because you didn't cite anything. How
- 17 could I be wrong if you don't tell me any authority? That
- 18 makes it really hard.
- 19 MR. SAMORE: Because before the hearing, before the
- 20 hearing, there was a simple motion because they were seeking
- 21 consequential damages.
- 22 THE COURT: Right.
- MR. SAMORE: Revenues clearly would be relevant to
- 24 consequential damages. At the hearing, they announced that
- 25 they are not seeking consequential damages.

- 1 THE COURT: Look, it is not set for presentment. Do
- 2 you want to file a written response?
- 3 MR. HOLEVAS: Your Honor --
- 4 THE COURT: So that's why -- I remember I looked at
- 5 it, I read it, and I went, "Huh, there is no response," and I
- 6 looked at it, and I went "This smells like a motion to
- 7 reconsider, gussied up as a motion to compel."
- 8 MR. HOLEVAS: Precisely, and that's why we did not
- 9 file a response because we needed to have some clarification.
- 10 THE COURT: Well, there was no presentment.
- 11 MR. HOLEVAS: Your Honor, with all due respect, I
- 12 think you have already dealt with this issue. Counsel has
- 13 alluded to, and I think his co-colleague said, death by a
- 14 thousand cuts. Why are we going back now and retreading
- 15 damage issues that you have already dealt with back in August?
- 16 There is a lot of work that both parties need to do here, and
- 17 I would submit to you that the transactional costs involved
- 18 and the court's time to readdress a motion that you have
- 19 already decided on is not in the best interest of anyone.
- 20 So if they want to withdraw it without prejudice, and
- 21 if it becomes an issue at some later date, perhaps. But at
- 22 this stage right now, to go back and rework this issue that
- 23 you have already decided, without any additional new
- 24 authority, I just don't understand why we would be required to
- 25 do that.

- 1 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Samore?
- 2 MR. SAMORE: Yes. Okay. I think when a party amends
- 3 their pleading at the hearing, in which you base your ruling
- 4 on, to withdraw the claim, that they have changed the color.
- 5 We are responding to their claim now with respect to direct
- 6 damages. Before we were responding to consequential damages.
- 7 This is directly relevant. There is no dispute, I don't hear
- 8 anything from either your Honor or from Plaintiffs, that the
- 9 revenue that an asset produces is relevant to its value.
- We have produced an affidavit, a detailed affidavit,
- 11 from a putative class member that talked about the importance
- 12 of this. We have produced a CPA affidavit talking about an
- 13 asset cannot be viewed in a vacuum. It has to be viewed by
- 14 the revenue that it produces.
- We certainly -- if you believe it is a motion to
- 16 reconsider, we will style it as a motion to reconsider. We
- 17 will file a motion to reconsider, but I would like this -- I
- 18 would like a ruling clearly and squarely on this issue.
- 19 THE COURT: I have ruled clearly and squarely on this
- 20 issue a long time ago. We have got a procedure. Look, you
- 21 can file motions to reconsider. I don't have any real hard
- 22 statistics, but motions to reconsider, generally not granted.
- 23 They can be. I mean, we all make mistakes, and I have
- 24 reconsidered things, but they are generally not granted.
- One of the great things about the system we have here

- 1 is if you don't like something I do, Judge Kapala loves
- 2 getting objections, and you can file an objection, and he can
- 3 tell me I'm wrong.
- 4 MR. SAMORE: Okay. We will be happy to do that,
- 5 then, your Honor.
- 6 THE COURT: So you blew your 14 days on that, so I
- 7 don't know how happy you are.
- 8 MR. SAMORE: This has changed the case complexion.
- 9 Your Honor has allowed them --
- 10 THE COURT: If you want to file a motion to
- 11 reconsider, file a motion to reconsider, but this is a motion
- 12 to compel the Plaintiffs to do something that they are under
- 13 no burden to do.
- MR. SAMORE: I will be happy to do that. I will be
- 15 happy to do that.
- 16 THE COURT: We have got different standards. We have
- 17 got -- okay, a motion to reconsider has a different standard
- 18 and Rule 37 has a different standard. It needs to be
- 19 presented, and it needs to be put forward to the court in the
- 20 proper procedural light, because where you start often
- 21 determines where you end, okay?
- MR. SAMORE: Okay.
- THE COURT: So I will deny it without prejudice.
- MR. SAMORE: Okay. And what we will do is we will
- 25 file this the way it is or in the alternative for a motion to

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reconsider. I don't think the issue is the same.
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 2
             THE COURT: No, here is what I'm going to do: I'm
    denying this without prejudice. You can do whatever you want
 3
    to do, okay?
 4
 5
             MR. HOLEVAS: Thank you, your Honor.
 6
             MR. BRUCE: Thank you.
 7
             MR. GRAVINO: Thank you, Judge.
 8
                 (Which were all the proceedings heard.)
 9
                              CERTIFICATE
      I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from
10
11
    the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.
12
    /s/ Heather M. Perkins-Reiva
                                            April 17, 2017
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    Heather M. Perkins-Reiva
                                                Date
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    Official Court Reporter
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